FRIDAY
September 5, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

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RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 211

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

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Should remarks on digital media be regulated?

SC says influencers often cross the line

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BACK ON TRACK

Plucky India rallies to get past Malaysia

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Auto, pharma sectors cheer GST slabs; airlines say wings clipped

Auto-makers expect tax cut will boost demand; airlines slam higher GST on non-economy seats; small entrepreneurs worried about higher labour costs; textile industry disappointed over the 18% duty for garments priced above ₹2,500

Likes & dislikes

The **new GST rates** were largely welcomed by most sectors, but there were also some discontents

POSITIVE	MIXED	UPSET
Auto manufacturers: Lower tax will **boost demand**	**Insurance sector:** Good for consumers, but could **eat into profits** of insurers	**Airlines:** 18% rate on non-economy tickets **makes premium travel more expensive**, potentially making some routes unviable
Pharma: Will make medicines more affordable	**Apparel makers:** Higher GST on expensive clothes a negative	**Vegetable oil makers**: Inverted duty structure should be removed for vegetable oils
Consumer appliance firms: Will lower prices ahead of the festive season	**Automobile dealers**: Though lower taxes are welcome, there are concerns about **potential delays in purchases**	**Micro and cottage entrepreneurs**: Increase in rate on labour charges will increase costs for MSMEs

"Poor, neo middle-class, middle-class women, students, farmers, youth... everyone will benefit

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

While the goods and services tax (GST) rate changes authorised by the GST Council on Wednesday night brought cheer to the auto, insurance, consumer appliances, pharmaceuticals, and renewable energy sectors, among others, some of that was tinged with reproach. A few sectors are outright upset with the tax changes.

The stock market, too, reflected this mixed response on Thursday, initially reacting positively but ending the day nearly flat, with the Sensex up just 0.2% from the previous day.

The airlines slammed the higher GST on non-economy seats. Vegetable oil producers called for the resolution of the inverted duty structure on edible oils, which means that the GST rate on raw materials in their industry is higher than the rate on the finished product. This mismatch was something that the Council corrected for the fertilizer and man-made textiles industries.

The increase in the GST rate for labour charges, from 12% to 18%, has also led to some resistance, with small entrepreneurs saying that they would be hit hard by the change.

Mixed response

While the textile industry has welcomed the revision of GST rates for both man-made fibre and cotton sectors, it has also expressed its disappointment over the 18% duty for garments priced above ₹2,500 each.

The Cloth Manufacturers Association of India pointed out that such garments are also consumed in large numbers by the common man, especially in the form of woollens, wedding wear, traditional clothing, handlooms, and embroidered clothes. Charging 18% GST on these will make them significantly more costly, it said.

This nuanced cheer can be seen in the auto sector as well.

Auto manufacturers have welcomed the rate rationalisation for the sector, along with the removal of the GST Compensation Cess applicable on cars.

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Centre and Manipur govt. ink peace pact with Kuki-Zo groups

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry and the Manipur government signed a Suspension of Operations (SoO) pact with the Kuki-Zo insurgent groups on Thursday with "re-negotiated terms and conditions or ground rules", the Ministry said on Thursday.

The development comes ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's expected visit to Manipur on September 13, his first since violence between the Kuki-Zo and Meitei people erupted on May 3, 2023.

Security forces will conduct verification of cadres and de-list foreign nationals, if any, the Ministry said. A government official said once identified, the foreign nationals would be deported. The revised ground rules reiterate territorial integrity of Manipur and relocation of camps of insurgent groups.

Prior to May 3, 2023, the SoO groups demanded autonomous territorial councils within Manipur, but post-violence the demands changed.

Core pact

The agreement was signed with 're-negotiated terms and conditions or ground rules'

- The revised ground rules reiterate territorial integrity of Manipur and relocation of camps run by insurgent groups

- The rules also stress need for a negotiated solution to bring lasting peace and stability to the State

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TIGHTENED NORMS
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NEARBY

MUDA case: Panel gives clean chit to CM's family

BENGALURU
A commission has given a clean chit to the family of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the MUDA site "scam". The family had been accused of being a part of the "scam" that took place in Mysuru between 2020 and 2024. » PAGE 9

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greets its readers on the occasion of
ONAM

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SC expresses concern over felling of trees in Himalayan forests

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Pointing to media visuals of huge numbers of logs floating in floodwaters, the Supreme Court on Thursday expressed concern over illegal felling of Himalayan trees. "If this goes on, we will be left with no forests," it observed.

The court voiced deep anguish about floods in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, and Punjab. It said the visuals indicated that illegal felling of ecologically sensitive Himalayan forests was on amid the chaos and deaths caused by natural disasters. "This is a very serious issue. Logs are seen flowing with the flood waters. If this goes on, we will not have any forests left. In Punjab, entire villages are inundated. Development is needed, but not at the cost of the environment and lives," Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai observed.

A flooded Ravi river in Amritsar.

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta said he would speak with the Environment Secretary on the same day. The Secretary would get in touch with the Chief Secretaries of these States.

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State govt. for use of ballot papers in local body polls in future

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amidst allegations of "vote theft" by the Congress, the State government on Thursday recommended to the State Election Commission (SEC) to revert to using ballot papers instead of EVMs in future elections to local bodies, citing the "erosion of confidence" in EVMs. The Cabinet also recommended revision of voters' list for such elections. There has been much anticipation in political circles over the long-delayed elections to the taluk and zilla panchayats, besides the newly formed five city corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority.

The Cabinet's recommendations comes in the light of the allegations by the Congress of manipulation of voter list across the country, including in Karnataka.

Specifically, the allegations have been made in the Bengaluru Central Lok Sabha constituency where its candidate Mansoor Ali Khan lost the polls after leading till almost the end. "There has been an erosion of credibility and confidence in EVMs in elections. People's trust in EVMs is declining," Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil told presspersons.

He said suitable amendments would be brought to the laws to make the shift possible.

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IIT-Madras tops NIRF rankings; Pradhan criticises 'peer perception' parameter

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

For the seventh straight year, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras claimed the top overall position in the higher education rankings announced by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) on Thursday. It also remained the country's best engineering college for the tenth straight year.

The NIRF's methodology, however, came in for some criticism from Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, who presented the India Rankings 2025 awards. He was especially skeptical about the 'peer perception' parameter, that carries 10% of marks for the ranking, and suggested that the NIRF should ensure that government-funded institutions do not fall behind because of this yardstick.

After the 2024 rankings, States and State-run educational institutions had alleged that the rankings reflected "regional bias" as metropolitan education institutions score higher on the 'peer perception' criteria, in comparison to suburban or State-run higher education institutions.

The other parameters that the NIRF considers are teaching, learning, and resources; research and professional practice; graduation outcomes; and research and inclusivity.

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Overall top 10

Six IITs make it to the **best 10** higher educational institutions in the overall ranking

1	Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
2	Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru
3	Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
4	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
5	Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur
6	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
7	Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee
8	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi
9	Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
10	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi

SOURCE: NATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL RANKING FRAMEWORK

VIT CHENNAI 15

13th ANNUAL CONVOCATION
6th September 2025, Saturday | 9.30 AM | Mahatma Gandhi Auditorium, VIT Chennai

Hearty Welcome to the Chief Guest

Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan
Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services, Government of Tamil Nadu

GUEST OF HONOUR
Mr. Shelley Salehin
Deputy High Commissioner, Bangladesh Deputy High Commission, Chennai

PRESIDED BY
Dr. G. Viswanathan
Founder & Chancellor

VITChennai vit.chennai in/vitchennai ChennaiVit VITChennaic
VIT - A PLACE TO LEARN; A CHANCE TO GROW

Dravid's parting of ways with Rajasthan Royals, and beyond

The franchise had a poor IPL 2025 season and the captain Samson being unable to keep wickets in the first three matches didn't help their cause; Parag's ascension to the throne sowed the first seeds of unease in the team; speculations mount about former India skipper's future plans

R. Kaushik

K.V.S. GIRI

There really is no place for sentiment in sport, it would appear. Under Erik ten Hag, Manchester United won the FA Cup and the League Cup, yet the Dutchman was sacked by the troubled one-time English giants in October 2024. He subsequently moved to Bayer Leverkusen in the German Bundesliga at the start of this season, but his tenure lasted a mere two league fixtures.

Defending champions Leverkusen completed a double last year under Xabi Alonso (who has since moved to Real Madrid) but began this season poorly, losing their opener to Hoffenheim at home and then frittering away a two-goal advantage to allow ten-man Werder Bremen to salvage a 3-3 draw. That was evidence enough for the club to be convinced that the team wasn't headed in the right direction, that Ten Hag wasn't the man to lead them forward. Hence the stunning sack, just weeks into the new season.

Coaches in professional sport are judged by results, and results alone. Some of them get a longer rope because of their track record, others jettisoned immediately – like ten Hag – for one reason or the other. Especially but not exclusively in club football, it's a rampant trend, though it's not as if other disciplines are immune from this phenomenon.

Last week, Rahul Dravid parted ways with Rajasthan Royals, the franchise with which he is mainly identified though he played for Royal Challengers Bangalore (as it was called then) for the first three years and captained them in the inaugural edition in 2008. Having completed his assignment as India head coach at the end of the T20 World Cup in June last year, Dravid's return to Rajasthan in a similar capacity was a no-brainer. He had been associated with the first champions of the IPL for five years from 2011, first as captain and then as team director and mentor, before taking charge of the India 'A' and Under-19 teams for four years, between 2015 and 2019.

Forgettable campaign

To lump Dravid's exit in the same category as ten Hag will be both unfair and untrue. Admittedly, the Royals had a poor 2025 season, registering just four victories and finishing an unedifying ninth in the ten-team tournament. But their campaign appeared doomed from the time long-standing captain Sanju Samson was unable to keep wickets in the first three matches owing to a finger injury sustained during the T20I series against England in January.

With Samson slotting in as an impact player who only batted but didn't keep wickets, the captaincy was bestowed on a temporary basis on Riyan Parag, one of the five players Rajasthan had retained before the season.

Parag's appointment came as a surprise given that there were other, more experienced options to pick from, not least opener Yashasvi Jaiswal and West Indian Shimron Hetmyer, both of whom were also retained alongside Dhruv Jurel. Parag wasn't quite up to scratch as either batter or skipper; perhaps, the first seeds of unease stemmed from his ascension to the throne.

With Dravid's exit, Rajasthan are now the second IPL franchise without a head coach. Chandrakant Pandit, who was in charge when Kolkata Knight Riders ended a 10-year title drought in 2024, left after deciding to 'explore new opportunities.' There has been a growing clamour for more Indian head coaches in the IPL – as of now, the only remaining cricketing bosses are Ashish Nehra (Gujarat Titans) and Hemang Badani (Delhi Capitals) – and the latest developments haven't helped, but then again, that is the very nature of high-stakes sport, isn't it?

Within months of Pandit overseeing KKR's successful march in 2024, Dravid brought the curtain down on a terrific stint with the Indian team by wrapping his hands around meaningful silverware as head coach for the only time.

After winding up his coaching stints with the 'A' and Under-19 teams, Dravid moved to the National Cricket Academy (now the Centre of Excellence) as the cricket head in 2019, revolutionising the system and putting processes in place that have been built exponentially on and fine-tuned by his favourite batting partner, V.V.S. Laxman. In November 2021, Dravid succeeded Ravi Shastri as the Indian coach; within a few months, Rohit Sharma was elevated as the all-format captain with Virat Kohli ceding the T20I and Test captaincies (he was removed as ODI skipper). Dravid and Rohit, as different temperamentally as is imaginable, struck up an exceptional relationship based on mutual respect, trust, affection and supreme confidence in each other, leading Indian cricket into the future with an attractive, entertaining brand of play across formats.

Dravid's two-year contract was to end with the 50-over home World Cup towards the end of 2023. Taking sustained high pressure in their stride, India was outstanding throughout the tournament, winning ten matches on the trot with grand authority and unmatched superiority.

Rohit seemed on course to emulate Mahendra Singh Dhoni by becoming just the second Indian captain to lift the World Cup trophy on home soil until Australia gate-crashed the party in the Ahmedabad final.

Rohit felt there was unfinished business to attend to; it was his phone call that convinced Dravid to stay on for another seven and a half months, until the end of the T20 World Cup. "In some ways, if we had won that game in Ahmedabad, I'm not really sure whether he would have asked me to continue," Dravid told this writer last September. "Both of us felt there was some unfinished business. We'd done a lot of good work and felt we wanted to have one more crack at it."

Like in the 50-over version, India were unbeaten heading into the June 29 final in Bridgetown against South Africa. A second heartbreak in a short span appeared imminent with Heinrich Klaasen firing on all cylinders when India came charging back. Spearheaded by Jasprit Bumrah and Hardik Pandya, aided by a sensational last-over catch by Suryakumar Yadav and led inspirationally by Rohit, India overturned a lost cause in stirring fashion to pull off the most unexpected of heists. Not known to great outward shows of emotion, Dravid's roar as he lifted the trophy showed just how much that success meant to him, though in that moment of triumph too, his quiet dignity remained his staunchest ally.

Unsurprisingly, Dravid has maintained studied silence in the days since Rajasthan Royals put out a statement formalising the former India captain's departure.

"As part of the franchise structural review, Rahul had been offered a broader position at the franchise, but has chosen

SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

not to take this," the statement revealed. One can't say this with any certainty, but the ownership group must have been taken aback by Dravid opting for a clean break. Franchise owners aren't generally accustomed to players/coaches turning them down, but knowing Dravid for as long as they have done, they should have seen this coming.

Dravid doesn't make compromises at the expense of his integrity and commitment. A 'broader position' didn't interest him once it was obvious that his tenure as a head coach after just one year was coming to an end.

In the last few days, there has been intense speculation about Dravid's immediate plans. He has been linked with KKR, still without a head coach following Pandit's decision towards the end of July, as well as with Chennai Super Kings, unsurprising given his strong bond with former BCCI and ICC boss N. Srinivasan, who is back as chairman of Chennai Super Kings Cricket Limited. Perhaps Dravid is considering these options, perhaps he isn't.

After all, he hasn't had a 'break' for more than three decades, going from aspiring India cricketer to a memorable Test debut in June 1996, establishing himself as an unquestioned, reliable No. 3, taking over the captaincy in 2005 and eventually calling time on his Test career in 2012, after which he moved on to a technical off-field role in various different capacities.

What's in store?

Will Dravid decide to take some time off now, just to taste life without an official cricketing responsibility? His two boys, Samit and Anvay, are upwardly mobile, the former having just graduated from the Under-19 ranks and the latter making a strong pitch to break into the state U-19 squad when only 17. Maybe the doting father will choose to share his wisdom and expertise and knowledge with his sons, with whom he probably hasn't been able to spend as much time as all of them would like, given his numerous commitments. Dravid isn't a hands-on, obsessive parent fussing over his cricketing kids like many others, but that doesn't mean that he isn't deeply invested in their organic progress.

A decade is a lifetime in the IPL, and Dravid was perhaps exposed to a whole different ideology and style of functioning on his return to Rajasthan Royals after 10 long years. Again at the risk of speculating, that potentially made it harder for him to stick with the franchise, which is a shame as far as the younger players are concerned because there is so much to learn from Dravid – about cricket and technique and batting and game- and situational awareness, sure, but also about life, about how to conduct and carry oneself, about how to channelise aggression and about how to show the world (not that that has ever been a Dravid trait) that nice guys can indeed finish first.

Despite having been in the public glare for decades on end, Dravid is an intensely private person who is a master at keeping his thoughts and emotions to himself and just the closest chosen very few. It's not that he doesn't trust easily but he is a great believer in internalising rather than playing his life out for everyone to see, which is why he has stayed away from social media.

In so many ways, he is still an amateur at heart but with a professionalism when it comes to the sport that is almost without parallel. In time, perhaps in a very short time, Rajasthan Royals will realise the folly of letting him go. Cricketing greats like Rahul Dravid, they don't exactly grow on trees, do they?

THE GIST

- Coaches in professional sport are judged by results, and results alone. Some of them get a longer rope because of their track record, others jettisoned immediately
- Not known to great outward shows of emotion, Dravid's roar as he lifted the T20 World Cup trophy showed just how much that success meant to him
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IISc retains second rank among top 100 HEIs

Despite having 32 State-run universities, only four managed to find a place in the list of top 50 public universities

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Several Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) from Karnataka including premiere institutes, figure among India's top 100 institutions in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)-2025 list released by the Union Ministry of Education on Thursday.

Institutions, including the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIMB), National Institute of Technology Surathkal (NITK), National Institute for Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru, and Mysore and Bangalore universities are on the list.

IISc has retained its second rank among the top 100 HEIs across the country and best university, and also tops as the best research institute in the country.

While NITK has got the 54th rank, NIMHANS has secured 60th place among top 100 HEIs.

Three private institutions Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), JSS Academy for Higher Education and Research and CHRIST (Deemed to be University) have secured 14th, 38th and 96th places,

IISc tops as the best research institute in the country, as per NIRF rankings. FILE PHOTO

NIRF RANKINGS

respectively.

But, among top 100 universities, even as IISc leads, it is followed by MAHE ranked third, JSS Academy for Higher Education and Research at 21st rank, Bangalore University at 65, Jain (Deemed-to-be University) at 62, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) at 63, University of Mysore at 71, NITTE University at 80, and University of Agriculture Sciences Bengaluru (UAS-B) at 95th rank.

Bangalore University, which ranked 81 among all HEIs in 2024, has improved its ranking to 65 this year.

"This is a significant achievement which will motivate us to continue striving for academic excellence and to further enhance the quality of education and research at our university," said Dr. Jayakara S.M., Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University.

Despite having 32 State-run universities, only four universities managed to rank in the top 50 public universities in the list.

The University of Mysore (UoM) has secured 20th rank, Bangalore University (BU) 26th rank, UAS-B 37 and Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) 50th rank.

Degree colleges

Meanwhile, four degree colleges – Kristu Jayanti College, Bengaluru has ranked 34, M.S. Ramaiah Arts, Science and Commerce College, Bengaluru 67, St. Aloysius College, Mangaluru 73, and St. Joseph's Commerce College Bengaluru has secured 98th rank – figure in the top 100 colleges category. No government-run colleges are on the list.

Top 100 institutions in the NIRF - 2025 rank list

Top 50 Research Institutions
- IISc-Bengaluru remains in top 1 position
- MAHE 19
- Jawaharlal Nehru centre for advanced research 44

Top 10 Innovation institutions
- Only institute from Karnataka IISc-Bengaluru 3

Top 100 engineering colleges
- NITK-Surathkal 17
- Manipal Institute of Technology 59
- International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore 69
- MS Ramaiah Institute of Technology Bangalore 75
- CHRIST (Deemed to be University) 76
- IIT-Dharwad 77
- JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) Bengaluru 84

Top 100 Management colleges
- IIM-Bangalore 2
- CHRIST (Deemed to be University) 57
- Alliance University 71
- JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) Bengaluru 73

Top 50 Law Universities
- NLSIU-Bengaluru 1
- Alliance University 20
- CHRIST (Deemed to be University) 24

Top 50 Medical Institutions
- NIMHANS Bengaluru 7
- Kasturba Medical College, Manipal 10
- St . Johns Medical College Bengaluru 30
- Kasturba Medical College Mangalore 35
- JSS Mysore 37
- JNMC Belagavi 46
- MS Ramaiah Medical College 50

Top 40 Agricultural Universities
- UAS Bangalore 11
- UAS Dharwad 35

Top 100 public universities
- Mysore University 20
- Bangalore University 26

While NLSIU, Bengaluru, has retained its first rank in NIRF Law Rankings-2025 for the eighth consecutive year, IIMB has been ranked second among management colleges in the country.

"We continue to innovate and have institutionalised small group learning and assessment exercises into every course this academic year. We are reinventing our approach to research and professional practice through a new research fellowship programme. We will provide enhanced funding support to faculty research and develop a more flexible research leave policy," said Prof. Sudhir Krishnaswamy, Vice-Chancellor, NLSIU, Bengaluru.

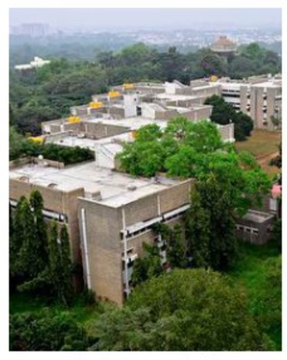
UAS-B ranked 11th in India, no. 1 in State in agri and allied sectors

B.S. Satish Kumar
BENGALURU

The University of Agricultural Sciences-Bangalore (UAS-B) stands 11th among the total of 75 institutes of higher education and research in agriculture and allied sectors in the country as per the ranking under the National Institutional Ranking Framework.

While the UAS-B, the oldest agricultural university in the State, is ranked 11th nationally, it tops the State among the agricultural, horticultural, and veterinary universities as well as research institutes. Karnataka has a total of seven universities in agriculture and allied sectors.

University of Agricultural Sciences-Dharwad, which has been ranked 35 nationally, is the only other agricultural university from Karnataka to figure in the list that has identified the top 30 institutes. Though the State has a slew of ICAR research institutes in the sectors of horticulture, veterinary, and entomology, none of them have figured in the list of 30 best institutes of the country. For the UAS-B, it has been a status quo as it had been ranked 11th in the previous year's ranking too. Incidentally, the UAS-B has secured A+ rating this year from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).



Karnataka has a total of seven universities in agriculture and allied sectors. FILE PHOTO

Vice-Chancellor S.V. Suresha said the ranking was an indication of effective work by the University in research, education, and extension activities.

Mr. Suresha told *The Hindu* that the score card of the University had improved this time when compared with the previous year, though the ranking had remained the same.

Symposium and Literary Fest at Bengaluru city varsity

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru City University's Centre for Global Languages organised a Symposium and Literary Festival on Victor Hugo along with an Alumni Meet on Wednesday on the Central College Campus.

Book release

A book titled *Victor Hugo and Hindu Philosophy* by Suman Venkatesh was released. Dr. Suman highlighted cross-cultural influences of the Bhagavad Gita and Upanishads in Hugo's poetry.

Chief guest Marc Lamy, Consul General of France in Bengaluru, conferred the *Chevalier in the Order of Academic Palms* on Prof. Jyothi Venkatesh, Director of the Centre, for her contribution to French studies.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. Jalaja emphasised the role of language in fostering human understanding.

The programme featured a student-made video, a poster competition prize distribution, and a performance of Hugo's *Hernani*. French officials and Syndicate Member Rev. Dr. Francis Assisi Almeida attended the event as guests of honour.

Kristu Jayanti secures 34th rank in NIRF 2025

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Kristu Jayanti (Deemed to be University) has been ranked 34th in the Colleges category of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2025 released by the Ministry of Education. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced the rankings on Thursday.

This marks the highest position achieved by a college from Karnataka in this category, according to the university release. The institution received evaluation across six NIRF parameters, including Teaching, Learning and Resources, Research and Professional Practice, Graduation Outcomes, Outreach and Inclusivity, and Perception. The university has aligned its efforts with national development goals under Viksit Bharat @ 2047.

Officials of GBA and five corporations meet; prioritise fixing potholes, waste management

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) officials and the newly posted officials to five corporations in the city met for the first time on Thursday, and chalked out key focus areas - potholes, streetlighting, and waste management.

Tushar Giri Nath, Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department, speaking at the meeting, directing officials to focus on these three areas, said that resolving these three issues would address a majority of citizen concerns and "stressed the importance of being responsive to the needs of the public".

Mr. Giri Nath told officials that "visible improvements must be made to reflect the administrative changes introduced through the GBA".

"GBA and all five corporations must work in coordination to address issues in a phased manner," he said, calling upon "all stakeholders to work together to enhance the city's image and functionality".

GBA Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao stressed focusing on revenue generation and improving road quality. K. MURALI KUMAR

Mr. Giri Nath directed all corporations to take preventive measures to handle the ongoing monsoon and "upgrade traffic junctions and improve pedestrian infrastructure beyond expectations".

GBA Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao stressed focusing on revenue generation and improving road quality. "All corporations must promptly fill potholes and improve road quality. Micro-level planning must be implemented for mass cleanliness drives, waste removal, and elimination of waste black spots along roadsides," he said.

He directed all city corporation commissioners to actively participate in daily virtual meetings chaired by the Special Commissioner (Revenue), GBA to streamline revenue generation and issuance of e-Khatas.

Munish Moudgil, Special Commissioner (Revenue), GBA, said that against a target of ₹6,700 crore in property tax collection this year, BBMP has already collected ₹3,217 crore, leaving ₹3,483 crore yet to be collected. BBMP issued electronic notices to2.75 lakh property owners who owe ₹786 crore in pending tax dues.

Mr. Moudgil asked all city corporations to intensify efforts to collect dues from high-default properties.

Know your corporation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Since there is confusion among the city's residents as to which corporation their area will now belong to, the government has launched a dedicated webpage - https://www.bbmp.gov.in/KnowYourNewCorporation/, to help them learn the same.

"Residents can scan the attached QR code and input their ward name or number to find out which corporation they belong to," a statement from GBA said.

To clear confusion on the boundaries of the new corporations, GBA Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao directed officials to immediately install name boards indicating corporation boundaries, for public clarity.

He further said suitable locations have been identified for the office of each corporation, and necessary preparations must be made for the inauguration of the city corporation offices on November 1.

Lokayukta police raid 2 police stations, arrest two personnel

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Lokayukta police on Thursday raided two police stations - Devanahalli and Vyalikaval - in connection with two cases where police officials were found accepting bribes.

A sub-inspector and her assistant, a constable with Devanahalli Police, fled the scene when Lokayukta police raided the station while they were allegedly taking a bribe from the mother of a minor girl, victim of sexual assault, to file a chargesheet against the accused. While Lokayukta sleuths caught the station writer, Amaresh, red-handed, the prime accused, PSI Jagadevi, and constable Manjunath managed to flee.

The accused police personnel had allegedly demanded a bribe to file a chargesheet against a man booked for sexually assaulting the minor daughter of the victim. The accused man was arrested, and jailed but came out on bail. The accused Jagadevi reportedly told her that they had spent ₹25,000 for the arrest of the accused and demanded ₹1 lakh to file chargesheet against him.Unable to pay the bribe amount, the complainant approached Lokayukta and filed a complaint, which led to the raid and arrest of one of the accused, sources in the Lokayukta police said.

In a similar case, the Lokayukta officials arrested the head constable of Vyalikawal Police Station redhanded on Thursday while accepting a bribe from a YouTuber. The accused Dayananda, was probing a case of controversy between two Kannada activists aired on a YouTube channel.

Bike taxi rider held for molesting, robbing PG resident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Sudduguntepalya Police have arrested a 30-year-old bike taxi driver for allegedly molesting and robbing a girl in a paying guest (PG) facility at knife point while she was sleeping on August 29.

The accused, Naresh Pattem, hailing from Madanapalli, Andhra Pradesh, was arrested from Shikaripalya in Electronics City based on technical evidence.

According to the police, Naresh is a habitual offender involved in two robbery cases in his home town in 2021. The accused got out on bail and came to the city to work as a gig worker.

On the day of the incident, he noticed the door of the PG facility open and barged in while the security guard was fast asleep. He gained entry into the victim's room who was sleeping, keeping the door open for her roommate to return after her night shift.

He allegedly molested the victim at knife point and threatened her with dire consequences when she tried to resist. The accused later demanded valuables and took cash ₹2,500 and fled.

Appointment of regular director for Jayadeva institute put on hold

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The appointment of a regular director for the State-run Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research that was scheduled to be finalised on Thursday has been kept in abeyance following a stay obtained by one of the aspirants.

Front runners

Sources said B. Dinesh, Professor of Cardiology at Jayadeva's Mysuru unit, along with two other professors from Jayadeva Bengaluru – A.C. Nagamani (Cardiology) and B. Girish (Cardiothoracic Surgery) – are among the front runners for the post. The other aspirants include Divya Prakash M., Professor and head of Cardiology at Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI), and six other Jayadeva professors – V. Kumaraswamy (Cardiology), Prasanna Simha M. (Cardiothoracic Surgery), Satish Govindaiah (Cardiothoracic Surgery), Venugopal Ramarao (Cardiothoracic Surgery), Giridhar Kamlapurkar (Cardiothoracic Surgery), C.G. Prabhushankar (Anaesthesia), and Jayaprakash Shenthar, who formerly headed the Department of Electrophysiology at Jayadeva.

Of the 11 candidates who applied for the post of Jayadeva director, three doctors have already superannuated.

Of these, Dr. Govindaiah did not attend the interview on Thursday.

Selection panel

The selection committee comprised Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil and two external subject experts – S. Harikrishnan, Professor of Cardiology at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum and Nitish Naik, Additional Professor of Cardiology at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi with B.L. Sujatha Rathod, Director of Medical Education as member secretary.

Although the stay notice was sent to the Medical Education Department on Wednesday night, the selection committee completed the interviews on Thursday as the stay is only on the announcement of the new director.

Process completed

"We completed the selection process and the results have been kept in sealed covers. Ten of the 11 candidates, who had applied, attended the interviews.

One of the applicants, Dr. Shenthar, who also attended the interview, has approached the court on the grounds that the by-laws were not amended before calling applications for the post of the director. But, the due process has been followed after the institute's governing council approved the amendments," Dr. Rathod told *The Hindu*.

The matter is slated to come up for hearing on September 10 and till then the announcement has been kept in abeyance, she said. Of the 11 candidates who applied for the post of Jayadeva director, three doctors have already superannuated.

However, as the upper age limit for eligibility was not mentioned in the notice inviting applications, there is no bar on those who have retired to apply, Dr. Rathod said.

Jayadeva institute has been functioning under the administration of in charge director K.S. Ravindranath since January last year after former director C.N. Manjunath completed his extended tenure on January 31, 2024.

How the antibiotic culture in India imperils mental health

While threat of antimicrobial resistance is acknowledged as a formidable public health hazard, its implications on mental well being remain under examined; public health campaigns must pivot towards education and empowerment and regulatory reform is imperative to address the issue

Rashikkha Ra Iyer

As mental health awareness gains momentum in India, a surreptitious menace is insidiously undermining this edifice of progress: the unbridled use of antibiotics. Whilst the threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is ubiquitously acknowledged as a formidable public health hazard, its profound implications on mental well being remain under examined. At the epicentre of this conundrum lies the intricate gut-brain axis – a labyrinthine communication nexus between the gastrointestinal apparatus and the cerebral cortex.

Nascent research suggests that perturbations in gut microbiota, frequently precipitated by overzealous antibiotic consumption, may significantly contribute to the aetiology of anxiety, depression, and cognitive degeneration. In a country where antibiotics are often taken sans prescription or medical oversight, this gut-brain axis nexus demands an urgent and paradigmatic shift in attention for remedial measures to mitigate this silent yet calamitous crisis.

In focus: Students raising awareness about antimicrobial resistance. FILE PHOTO

Antibiotic consumption

India occupies a distressing prominence in the global hierarchy of antibiotic consumption. The trifecta of over-the-counter accessibility, rampant self-medication, and limited public awareness has cultivated an entrenched culture of antibiotic overutilisation. According to the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) was accountable for an estimated 2,67,000 fatalities in India in 2021, with projections forecasting an escalation to 1.2 million by 2030, should prevailing trends continue.

A seminal study published in 2022 in *The Lancet Regional Health - Southeast Asia* revealed a disquieting statistic: nearly half of all antibiotics consumed in India comprised unapproved formulations, exacerbating the threat of resistance. This egregious misuse not only fuels the conflagration of AMR but also precipitates a deleterious impact on the gut's microbial diversity – a vital constituent of mental well being.

What's in the gut

The gastrointestinal tract harbours trillions of microorganisms that exert a profound influence on the biosynthesis of pivotal neurotransmitters, including serotonin and dopamine. These chemical messengers orchestrate the regulation of mood, sleep-wake cycles, and stress responses, and so, the gut plays an integral role in maintaining neurological homeostasis. When antibiotics disrupt this delicate microbial equilibrium, the repercussions can resonate throughout the nervous system, potentially precipitating a cascade of downstream effects.

Pioneering research from institutions such as the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) has initiated an exploration of the intricate relationship between gut dysbiosis and psychiatric maladies. Although the scientific discourse is still evolving, the accumulating evidence is sufficiently compelling to justify the implementation of targeted public health interventions towards a proactive and informed response to mitigate the burgeoning threat of gut-related psychiatric disorders.

The ramifications of microbial perturbation extend beyond mere biochemical imbalances; they encompass a broader psychosocial dimension that implicates the very fabric of human experience. The gut microbiota, often romanticised as the "second brain," is not merely a passive consortium of bacteria, but an active participant in neurochemical symphony. Through the production of short-chain fatty acids, modulation of the immune system, and interaction with the vagus nerve, these microorganisms wield influence over neurodevelopmental trajectories and behavioural phenotypes.

Indeed, the burgeoning field of psychobiotics – a portmanteau term coined to describe probiotics and prebiotics that confer mental health benefits – has illuminated the therapeutic potential of modulating gut flora to ameliorate psychiatric symptoms. A 2020 meta-analysis published in *Frontiers in Psychiatry* revealed that probiotic supplementation was associated with significant reductions in depressive symptoms, particularly among individuals with mild to moderate depression. Such findings underscore the plausibility of gut-targeted interventions as adjuncts to conventional psychiatric care, especially in a nation like India where mental health infrastructure remains woefully inadequate.

Compounding this crisis is the paucity of public awareness regarding the gut-brain axis and its susceptibility to pharmacological insult. The average Indian consumer, often bereft of access to nuanced medical counsel, remains oblivious to the long-term consequences of indiscriminate antibiotic use. The cultural proclivity towards "quick fixes" and the valorisation of pharmaceutical interventions over lifestyle modifications further entrench this paradigm. In rural and semi-urban locales, where healthcare access is fragmented and regulatory oversight lax, antibiotics are dispensed easily, and without prescription –frequently for viral infections where they are not only ineffective but actively deleterious.

Moreover, the economic incentives that drive antibiotic over-prescription cannot be ignored. Private practitioners, operating within a fee-for-service model, may be inclined to prescribe antibiotics to appease patient expectations or expedite symptomatic relief. Pharmacies, often unregulated, serve as de facto dispensaries, offering potent medications without requisite prescriptions. This confluence of systemic vulnerabilities and behavioural predispositions has rendered India a fertile ground for AMR proliferation and microbial dysbiosis.

The implications for mental health are manifold. Dysbiosis-induced inflammation has been implicated in the pathogenesis of major depressive disorder, with elevated levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines such as IL-6 and TNF-alpha observed in affected individuals. These inflammatory mediators can traverse the blood-brain barrier, altering neurotransmitter metabolism and neuroplasticity. Furthermore, gut-derived metabolites like butyrate and propionate have been shown to influence gene expression in the brain, modulating synaptic function and stress reactivity.

Need for interventions

In this context, the intersection of microbiology and psychiatry assumes profound significance. It invites a reconceptualisation of mental illness – not merely as a cerebral aberration but as a systemic dysfunction with gastrointestinal antecedents. Such a paradigm shift necessitates interdisciplinary collaboration, integrating gastroenterology, psychiatry, nutrition, and public health to forge holistic interventions.

Encouragingly, India possesses a rich repository of traditional knowledge that can be harnessed to promote gut health. Fermented foods – ubiquitous in Indian cuisine – such as curd, idli, dosa, and pickles, serve as natural probiotics, fostering microbial diversity and resilience.

Public health campaigns must pivot towards education and empowerment. The National Health Mission and Ayushman Bharat can incorporate gut-brain literacy into their outreach programmes, elucidating the dangers of antibiotic misuse and the virtues of dietary modulation. School curricula can embed modules on microbiome science, cultivating a generation of informed citizens. Media platforms, both traditional and digital, can amplify narratives that valorise microbial stewardship and mental wellbeing.

Simultaneously, regulatory reform is imperative. The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization must enforce stringent controls on antibiotic dispensation, mandating prescription-only access and penalising non-compliance. More surveillance systems such as INSAR (Indian Network for Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance), which is now part of a broader network, should be created and integrated with mental health metrics to elucidate correlations and inform policy. Investment in microbiome research, particularly within Indian populations, can yield context-specific insights and therapeutic innovations.

Clinicians, too, must recalibrate their praxis. Antibiotic stewardship should be embedded within medical training, sensitising practitioners to the collateral damage of pharmacological interventions. Psychiatric evaluations can incorporate gastrointestinal assessments, recognising the bidirectional interplay between gut and mind. Nutritional counselling, often relegated to ancillary status, must be foregrounded. As India strides towards a more enlightened discourse on mental health, it must not overlook the microbial foundations of well being.

(Rashikkha Ra Iyer is a multidisciplinary clinician working in the U.K., specialising in the delivery of clinical interventions in forensic settings Rashikkha.RaIyer@outlook.com)

At least 63 million Indians, around 6.3 % of the population, live with significant hearing loss. FILE PHOTO

From silence to sound: power of hearing implants

Karthik Madesh Ratnavelu

In a country as vibrant and expressive as India, silence should never define a person's experience of life. Yet, for millions living with hearing loss, that is the quiet reality. At least 63 million Indians, around 6.3 % of the population, live with significant hearing loss according to figures widely used by India's health authorities. This number comes from earlier World Health Organization (WHO) estimates and with today's population growth, the true burden is likely even higher.

Globally, the challenge is immense. The WHO reports that 430 million people require rehabilitation for disabling hearing loss, including 34 million children. Newborn and early onset permanent hearing loss occurs in roughly 0.5 to 5 in every 1,000 infants, highlighting the need for universal newborn screening and regular checks through childhood.

Silence not a choice

Too often, hearing loss is missed or misunderstood. In children, it may be mistaken for inattentiveness or slow learning. In adults, it can be dismissed as fatigue or personality change. Among older people, it is wrongly accepted as an unavoidable part of ageing rather than a treatable condition. The consequences are far-reaching, affecting education, employment, emotional well-being and social connection.

For parents, discovering that a child has hearing loss can be deeply emotional. It is not uncommon to feel overwhelmed or uncertain. Early intervention can change the trajectory of a child's development.

Advances in hearing implant technology have transformed the landscape of ENT care. These devices do not just restore hearing; they restore participation in life. Cochlear implants bypass the damaged parts of the inner ear and directly stimulate the auditory nerve, making them ideal for individuals with severe to profound sensorineural hearing loss when hearing aids no longer suffice.

Active middle ear implants provide mechanical stimulation to the ossicles or the cochlear windows. They are particularly valuable for people with conductive, mixed or selected sensorineural hearing loss, especially when ear canal conditions or intolerance make conventional hearing aids ineffective. Outcomes are consistently strong when surgery is paired with proper follow-up, including speech and auditory rehabilitation. Modern techniques are standardised, with low rates of major complications reported worldwide.

Hearing implants have the power to change lives at every stage, from children finding their voices to elderly patients reconnecting with family and society. Around the world, these devices have enabled adolescents to regain confidence in classrooms and older individuals to rediscover the joy of conversation, festivals and social interaction after years of quiet withdrawal.

Early detection is key

The greatest gains come when intervention is timely. Delays often mean children face language and learning setbacks, or adults experience avoidable isolation. Building a culture of preventive hearing care is essential. This means universal newborn screening, school-based checks, routine assessments for older adults and public awareness to reduce stigma.

Hearing is not only about sound; it is about connection. It is a child answering a teacher's question. A grandparent laughing at a family joke. These moments are irreplaceable. When medicine offers us the power to preserve or restore them, no one should be left behind in silence.

(Dr. (Surgeon Commander) Karthik Madesh Ratnavelu is director and senior consultant, ENT, head & neck surgeon at SIMS Hospital, Chennai. karthikmadesh@hotmail.com)

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Measuring blood pressure is important, because high blood pressure is a silent killer. Here is a quiz on everything related to blood pressure

Zubeda Hamid

QUESTION 1
Blood pressure is a measurement of the force of the blood against the walls of blood vessels. It is measured in mm HG. What does mm HG stand for?

QUESTION 2
The first number in your reading is systolic, and the second diastolic. Systolic is the pressure when the heart _____ and diastolic is the pressure when the heart is _____.

QUESTION 3
Your heart beats about 1,00,000 times a day. Is this statement true or false?

QUESTION 4
What happens to the arteries when you have uncontrolled hypertension?

QUESTION 5
Approximately how many liters of blood does you heart pump around the body?

QUESTION 6
What is the condition low blood pressure medically known as?

QUESTION 7
One of the easiest way to help lower blood pressure is to remove or reduce this ingredient from foods. What is it?

QUESTION 8
Veins carry oxygenated blood from the heart to various parts of the body. Is this statement true or false?

Visual question: The image is of a common device know as a blood pressure monitor or blood pressure gauge. What is its medical name? REUTERS

Answers to previous edition's quiz:
1. What is one key difference between a migraine and a tension headache? **Ans: Additional symptoms** 2. Name a common trigger that can lead to migraine attacks. **Ans: Stress, hormonal changes** 3. The introduction of _____ in the 1990s revolutionised the treatment of migraines. **Ans: Triptans** 4. Migraines can sometimes occur without any head pain. True or False ? **Ans: True** 5. What is the term for the sensory warning signs that may happen before a migraine? **Ans: Aura** 6. Can strong smells trigger migraines in some people? **Ans: Yes** 7. What is photophobia? **Ans: Photophobia means sensitivity to light** 8. How can keeping a 'headache diary' help? **Ans: It helps track triggers, patterns and symptoms** 9. What does the term "chronic migraine" mean? **Ans: It means having migraines on 15 or more days each month, for at least three months** Visual: Who is this British physician. **Ans: Thomas Willis**

Bidadi township will be developed into India's first AI-powered township: DKS

Spread across 8,493 acres, preliminary notification for which was issued in March, the 'work-live-play' model township is about 30 km from city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The long-delayed Greater Bengaluru Integrated Township (GBIT) will be developed as India's first and largest Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered integrated township, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar announced on Thursday.

Spread across 8,493 acres, preliminary notification for which was issued in March earlier this year, the "work-live-play" model township at Bidadi, about 30 km from Bengaluru, is envisioned as Karnataka's second central business hub, estimated to cost over ₹20,000 crore and will be completed over the next three years, Mr. Shivakumar said.

"Over 2,000 acres have been earmarked for AI-based industries and ancillaries. The project is expected to create lakhs of new jobs across IT, AI, start-ups, and service sectors. Dedicated skilling centres will train the workforce for AI-driven and future-ready industries," he said.

GBIT will include residential spaces, healthcare, education, and cultural facilities. More than 1,100 acres will be reserved for parks and open spaces, making it one of India's most sustainable green cities.

Compensation package

Since the project requires 6,731 acres of private land across nine villages, the government has planned compensation under a framework aligned with the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013.

In a first-of-its-kind measure, the government will provide livelihood support from the date of the final notification until monetary compensation is paid or developed sites are handed over.

Under the plan, Kushki landowners will receive ₹30,000 per acre annually, Tari landowners ₹40,000, Bhagait landowners ₹50,000, and landless families ₹25,000 per year. The Deputy Chief Minister also assured that habitations in the notified township area will be retained and not acquired.

Better connectivity

Highlighting past shortcomings, officials said that earlier township plans failed due to poor connectivity.

This time, a 300-metre-wide business corridor with a 90-metre road will be built to connect the township seamlessly from all directions. "We have learnt this lesson," the government said in a press note, adding that the township is being designed for best access and zero traffic jams.

The township will be located 9 km from STRR Road, 11 km from NICE Road, 5 km from the Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway, and 2.2 km from the Bengaluru-Dindigul Highway.

Financial resources for the project have been secured in advance. Internal funding of ₹2,950 crore has been set aside from Bengaluru Metropolitan Region Development Authority's existing funds, while ₹17,500 crore will be raised externally through financial institutions, backed by government surety.

In total, the authority has over ₹20,000 crore at its disposal and will begin disbursing compensation once the land acquisition process is completed.

Bairamangala Lake

The rejuvenation of Bairamangala Lake, a long-pending demand of villagers, will also be taken up as part of the project to improve public health and the well-being of nearby residents. The rejuvenation, estimated to cost between ₹750 crore and ₹1,000 crore, will also include lakefront development and recreational facilities, undertaken in partnership with BBMP, BWSSB, KSPCB, CNNL, and other agencies, the statement issued on Thursday said.

Area details of the scheme

Total number of villages: 9	
Total scheme area	8,493 acres
Private land	6,731 acres
Govt. land	750 acres
Waterbodies	1,012 acres

A view of railway bridge on Bidadi bypass road. GBIT will include residential spaces, healthcare, education, and cultural facilities.
K. MURALI KUMAR

Timeline for project completion

Preliminary notification for land acquisition	Notified on 12.03.2025
Joint Measurement Certification (JMC)	Will start from September 11
Completion of JMC	90 days from initiation
Final notification	December 2025
Monetary compensation in case of consent acquisition	Within 30 days from conclusion of land acquisition
Monetary compensation in case of acquisition with due process	Within 1 year
Compensation as fully developed sites	Within 3 years
Completion of project	Within 3 years

'Not ready to go to jail denotifying land'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Responding to protests by a group of farmers in Bidadi opposing the Bidadi integrated township project on Thursday, Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar said that "he was not ready to go to jail like former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa by denotifying lands already notified for the township".

However, he assured the farmers of "one-of-the-best compensation packages" and said he would protect their interests.

KHB township in Yelahanka

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A ₹2,930 crores integrated high-tech township is proposed to come up near Yelahanka under a joint development of Karnataka Housing Board and private developers.

The board is expected to earn a revenue of about ₹1,252 crore from the project that entails multi storied residential complexes, commercial complexes, star hotels and office complexes.

The State Cabinet on Thursday approved providing developed bulk land to land owners under the 50:50 ratio for the joint development of integrated township. 95.13 acres in Chikkajala and Meenukunte villages is sought to be acquired by the Karnataka Housing Board while land owners have gone to court against it. However, land owners owning 43 acres have come forward with a consent seeking compensation under 50:50 ratio.

KIA: Both runways now compatible for wide-bodied aircraft operations

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

Both runways of the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) are now compatible for Code F aircraft operations, meaning wide-bodied aircraft, including the world's largest passenger aircraft - the Airbus A380, can take off and land on the two runways.

The KIA has two runways: the North Runway (Old Runway) and the South Runway (New Runway). KIA is the only airport in South India to operate independent parallel runways, enabling aircraft to land or take off simultaneously on both runways. However, until now only the South Runway was Code F compliant.

According to a Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs), now the North Runway has become Code F compliant.

The Bangalore International Airport Ltd. (BIAL), which operates KIA, confirmed getting approval from the aviation regulator and that the North Runway is now compatible for Code F aircraft.

"We had approached the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and have received approvals. However, it is for the airlines to decide when they want to start A380 operations from the North Runway. The airline would be doing security checks before starting flight operations from this runway," BIAL sources told *The Hindu*.

At present, Emirates is the only airline that operates the A380 from KIA. The airline operates scheduled daily A380 services between Bengaluru and Dubai.

BIAL sources said that with both runways now compatible for Code F aircraft operations, it gives a lot of flexibility to the operators and saves fuel.

"This gives us a lot of operational flexibility as the aircraft can take off and land from both runways, and this will improve the Air Traffic Movement and lead to better fuel efficiency," BIAL sources said.

Sources added that once the elevated western crossfield taxiway is ready, it is expected to further enhance operational efficiency and safety for aircraft taxiing between the two terminals (Terminal 1 and Terminal 2) and two runways (North and South) of the airport.

श्री चित्रातिरुनाल आयुर्विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, त्रिवेंद्रम, केरल- 695 011, भारत
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Sd/-, DIRECTOR

Seven airports operationalised under UDAN scheme connecting 118 routes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Of the nine airports in Karnataka, seven have been operationalised under the Regional Connectivity Scheme – Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN).

As per information by Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol to a question in the Rajya Sabha during the Monsoon Session of Parliament, airports at Bidar, Mysuru, Vidyanagar, Hubballi, Kalaburagi, Belagavi, and Shivamogga have been developed under RCS-UDAN, and 118 routes have been operationalised under the scheme.

"An amount of ₹146.89 crore has been utilised under the UDAN scheme for this purpose. All the seven airports are currently operational. Bidar airport is connected to Bengaluru by Star Air," he said.

He added that most of the routes under the scheme, which completed their RCS tenure, have demonstrated financial viability and continue commercial operations.

"Flight operations on a few routes were discontinued after the expiry of the RCS tenure. To revive these routes, special bidding rounds are conducted to operationalise them," he added.

In reply to another question on current status of development of airports in Ballari, Kolar, Kushalnagar, Raichur, and Hassan under the scheme, the Minister said, "Under UDAN 5.2, bids have been received for small aircraft operations (less than 20 seats) for Ballari and Kolar airstrips".

No bids have been received for Kushalnagar, Raichur, and Hassan airstrips. "The Ministry of Civil Aviation has requested the State government to provide consent, and confirm the availability of land for the development of these airports. This includes ensuring that the land is provided free of cost and free from encumbrances, and is suitable for operating small aircraft (2B) initially, with the potential for future expansion to category 3C," he said.

The Minister added said that the actual timelines for airport projects depend upon various factors, such as land acquisition, mandatory clearances, and removal of obstacles.

Four arrested for assaulting student

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Wilson Garden police on Thursday arrested four persons for allegedly assaulting a 20-year-old college student with weapons over a trivial row.

The accused have been identified as Mohammed Fardeen, 24; Mohammed Afaan, 26; Mohammed Rayan, 21, and Sameer M., 24. The victim has been identified as Babur Rayan.

According to the police, the accused had gotten into an argument with the victim's friend Afridi over talking to a girl, who is also a student in their college on Lalbagh Road.

The incident occurred on Tuesday when the accused, armed with weapons, attacked Afridi and Rayan. Afridi managed to escape, and the attackers, after making a futile attempt to catch him, returned to Rayan and allegedly assaulted him with a machete and knives.

The injured Rayan managed to escape and got treatment in a private hospital before approaching the police.

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of deaths as a crowded Nigerian ferry capsizes

32 A crowded ferry with nearly 100 passengers capsized on the Malale River in Niger State after hitting a tree stump. Rescue teams said 50 survivors were pulled out, while eight remain missing. Overloading and poor safety compliance are common causes of Nigeria's boat tragedies. AFP

Illegal structures on deemed forest land in Faridabad

6,793 A Supreme Court mandated panel reported that unauthorised buildings, including farmhouses and government facilities, have come up on 780 acres of land in four villages of Faridabad notified under the Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900. PTI

The level to which the Yamuna river has risen on Thursday

207.44 In metres. Rising floods have left children in low-lying areas of Delhi struggling with wet books, missing uniforms and lost notes just days before exams. Many are borrowing textbooks and copying lessons late into the night. PTI

The increase in the cost of IPL tickets after GST hike

40 In per cent. Fans will have to spend more on IPL tickets next season after the government raised the GST on admission to these matches from 28% to 40%. A ticket with a base price of ₹500, earlier costing ₹640, will now be ₹700. IPL has been classified under luxury goods. PTI

French women boxers barred from world championships

5 The boxers have been excluded from the world championships in Liverpool after missing a deadline to submit results of newly mandated sex tests. Female boxers have to undergo a PCR test or an equivalent genetic screening test to determine their sex at birth. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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India-China: the making of a border

Being high up in the Himalayas, in a largely unpopulated area, the India-China border has been largely indeterminate and inaccurate. While at present peace and tranquillity at the boundary is what is important, the issue is far from being resolved

WORLD INSIGHT

Manoj Joshi

India has a complicated history with regards to its border with China. The border was the product of two empires – the Manchu and the British. Being in the Himalayas and in an unpopulated area, it was not precise.

After Independence, it would have been prudent for both countries to sit and lay down a precise and accurate border. Unfortunately, India took the position that it knew where the border was and that there was no need for negotiations. The Indian position was based on its confidence in British-era maps, but not on actual control on the ground.

The beginning of the conflict

While neither India nor China had a permanent presence in the Aksai Chin, a barren, high-altitude desert, China in order to facilitate its control of Tibet built a highway through the Aksai Chin from Xinjiang and occupied it. Similarly, in the east, India established control over Tawang, a major monastery town in what is now Arunachal Pradesh. It did so on the basis of the fact that it had signed a border agreement with Tibet in 1914, at a time when Tibet had been independent, which defined the boundary by the so-called McMahon Line.

The Chinese suggested various ways to deal with what they said was an undefined border. In 1959, they proposed that the two sides accept a Line of Actual Control as the border and move forces 20 kms back from it. In 1960, Zhou Enlai, former Premier of China, came to New Delhi and proposed a swap where India would concede the Chinese position in Aksai Chin in exchange for Chinese acceptance of India's claim over Arunachal Pradesh.

However, India refused. When India belatedly tried to recapture Aksai Chin, it led to friction with China and eventually resulted in the 1962 India-China war. After the war, the Chinese withdrew to the areas north of the McMahon Line in the east, but in the west (Ladakh), they retained some areas they had captured in the war.

Post war developments

For nearly one and a half decades, both sides stayed away from the border. In 1975, India constituted a high-level China Study Group to monitor the Sino-Indian border. It was under the directions of this body that the border was mapped with satellite imagery, and Indian police/Army patrols were ordered to regularly police the border by establishing patrolling points along it.

In February 1979, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who was the foreign minister of the then Janata Party government, visited Beijing and became the first senior Indian leader to go there since the war. Vajpayee, a veteran parliamentarian, had been a critic of Nehru's China policy. But in 1979, he saw his mission as one to restore normalcy with India's two neighbours, Pakistan and China. Though his visit had to be cut short because of the Chinese invasion of Vietnam, it did succeed in restoring a degree of normalcy in India-China ties. The Chinese motivation for accepting the Indian outreach was to ensure that New Delhi did not get too close to the Soviet Union which was, at the time, viewed as China's principal antagonist.

Deng Xiaoping, China's supreme leader, suggested a revival of the 1960 Zhou proposal. In June 1980, in an interview with Krishan Kumar, Editor of *Vikrant*, a now defunct defence journal, Deng said that China could recognise the McMahon Line if India was willing to recognise the existing status quo. The Chinese repeatedly tried to push this proposal but the Indian government, now headed by Indira Gandhi, comprised of officials who had not forgiven China for the 1962 "betrayal", saw this as an effort to trade one chunk of Indian territory for another.

In 1983, the Chinese went a step further and proposed not just a swap, but also that India should concede areas their forces had captured in 1962 in Ladakh. This proposal was named the 'LAC Plus', and it also was not accepted by the Indian government.

A time for negotiations

Nevertheless, the two sides resumed their border talks with the first round being held in December of 1981. The initial talks did not yield much. The Chinese pushed their package deal, while India wanted the talks to be held sector by sector. Therefore, the two sides were unable to come to an agreement. By the fifth round of talks in September 1984, the Indian side felt that the Chinese were coming around to their view, but they were mistaken. Even as the sixth round began in November 1985, Chinese Vice-Minister Liu Shuqing informed his Indian counterpart, Secretary (East) A.P. Venkateswaran, that there was a bigger dispute in the eastern sector, and that India would have to make unspecified concessions here for the Chinese to be able to give concessions in the west. Though they did not state it at the time, they were demanding that India concede the Tawang tract as part of the settlement.

The demand for Tawang was more fundamental, and represented a shift in China's domestic Tibet policy since the monastery was a major centre of Tibetan Buddhism and the area around it had been controlled by Tibet till well after the 1914 agreement.

Further on, Indian and Chinese troops clashed on the border in Nathu La and Cho La in Sikkim in 1967, but things settled down thereafter. In 1975, Sikkim was incorporated into the Indian Union, an action that led to Chinese protests.

In 1983, as part of a reset of the overall Indian security posture against China, Indian officials began visiting Wangdung in the region of the Namka Chu river where the first clashes of the 1962 war had occurred. In 1986, the Chinese occupied this region and triggered a crisis that saw the forward deployment of Indian forces at a pass overlooking Wangdung. Under Operation Falcon, India moved its forces forward along the entire LAC. The Chinese response was haphazard as they were clearly taken aback by this development. In any case, the two sides soon reached an agreement to de-escalate the situation. But the crisis did reveal that the Indian Army was now very different from the force that suffered disaster in 1962.

Move towards complete normalcy

By 1985, it was clear to the Chinese that the Soviet Union's threat had reduced because of their mis-adventure in Afghanistan. Now in order to check India's increasing closeness to the U.S., China invited Rajiv Gandhi to Beijing as a return for Zhou's 1960 Delhi visit. The Gandhi visit to China in December 1988 was seen as the beginning of the true normalisation of ties that had been sundered by the 1962 war. Deng told Rajiv "let both sides forget the unpleasant period in our past relations." The two sides agreed to restore, improve and develop good neighbourly relations.

As for the border, Premier Li Peng stated that it should be settled on the basis of mutual understanding and mutual accommodation (MUMA). Rajiv Gandhi's response to this was that there should be a "fair and reasonable... mutually acceptable solution to this question." In the meantime, the two sides agreed to develop bilateral relations in other fields which would create the conditions for a "fair and reasonable" settlement of the boundary issue.

This was a decisive break from the past, since till then India had insisted that without the settlement of the boundary issue, there could be no normalisation of ties. This situation suggested that the priority was to maintain peace and tranquillity on the borders. The two countries then eventually re-designated the meeting of their officials as a "joint working group" (JWG) on the border issue to work together for a settlement.

Manoj Joshi is a Distinguished Fellow, Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi. This is the first of a three part series on India-China border relations.

New relations: Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru greeting Zhou Enlai, the Chinese Premier, on his arrival in New Delhi, on April 19, 1960. HINDU ARCHIVES

THE GIST

While neither India nor China had a permanent presence in the Aksai Chin, a barren, high-altitude desert, China in order to facilitate its control of Tibet built a highway through the Aksai Chin from Xinjiang and occupied it.

In 1960, Zhou Enlai, former Premier of China, came to New Delhi and proposed a swap where India would concede the Chinese position in Aksai Chin in exchange for Chinese acceptance of India's claim over Arunachal Pradesh.

When India belatedly tried to recapture Aksai Chin, it led to friction with China and eventually resulted in the 1962 India-China war.

Elevated road along metro viaduct as a double-decker structure gets Cabinet nod

The cost of the ₹9,700-crore project will be fully borne by the State government

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The proposed construction of an elevated road along the metro viaduct as a double-decker structure for a length of 37.12 km in two corridors – from J.P. Nagar 4th phase to Hebbal along ORR West and from Hosahalli to Kadabagere along Magadi Road at a cost of ₹9,700 crore – received the Cabinet's approval on Thursday.

"The State government will bear the cost. Initially, the discussion was to have funding in the ratio of 65:35. However, we have finally decided to meet the project cost with 40% (₹3,880 crore) funding from State government, 10% (₹970 crores) from the urban local body and 50% (₹4,850 crores) from loan," Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil

H.K. Patil

told press persons in his post-Cabinet briefing.

The overall Phase 3 project will cost a total of ₹15,611 crores for 44.65 km, and is expected to be commissioned in 2030. Thursday's clearance is for a part of the project that includes 28.48 km in Corridor 1 starting from J.P. Nagar, and 8.63 km in Corridor 2 starting from Hosahalli.

No source of its own

While the Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited has no source of its own to repay the loan even on government guarantees, the Greater Bengaluru Authority is not in a financial position to commit any money towards the project as new city corporations are about to come into existence. Hence, the State government is expected to bear the whole cost of the project. The total land cost for the project is estimated to be around ₹3,023 crore.

The approval comes at a time when Chief Minister Siddaramaiah highlighted a higher share in the metro funding and lack of financial support from the Centre recently at the launch of the metro's Yellow Line in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated.

While the double-decker structure is proposed for 4 lanes of road with two lanes on each side, the elevated road will be going by the side of existing flyovers. In case of retaining existing flyovers becoming costly due to additional land requirement and buildings involved, such flyovers will be removed.

Six new STPs

The Cabinet also approved setting up of six new Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) in Bengaluru at a cost of ₹956 crore and upgrading the capacity of the STP at Kengeri from its current 60 Million Litres Per Day (MLD) to 80 MLD.

Meanwhile, the State government decided to withdraw 60 cases filed against farmers, students, and Kannada activists. The State has also decided to enhance financial help in the Cashless Treatment for Road Accident Victims Scheme. While the Centre provides for ₹1.5 lakh, the State will chip in another ₹1 lakh.

FIR against MLA

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

A case has been registered against B.P. Harish, BJP MLA for Harihar in Davangere district, for allegedly making derogatory remarks against the Superintendent of Police.

K.T.J. Nagar Police in Davangere have registered the FIR against the MLA based on a complaint by Superintendent of Police Uma Prashanth. A case has been registered under Sections 79 and 132 of the BNS.

Deadline extended

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Office of the Welfare and Cess Commissioner, operating under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, has extended key deadlines for the Pre-Matric Scheme. The last date for submitting applications has been extended to September 15.

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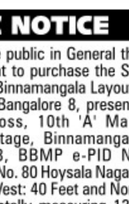
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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I, ABU Sawood Habeebullah s/o Khader Mohammed Habeebullah, No–280/281, 2nd CRS, Rashad Nagar, Blr – 560045. Have Changed My Name to Abu Sawood Ahmed Habeebullah. Vide affidavit on 03/09/2025.

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I, HABEEBULLAH s/o Khader Mohiyuddin Abdulla, No–280/281, 2nd CRS, A Block, Rashad Nagar, Blr – 560045. Have Changed My Name to Khader Mohammed Habeebullah. Vide affidavit on 03/09/2025.

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TENDERS
SRI VASAVI Engineering College, Tender Notice Sealed cover tenders are invited from the reputed suppliers for supply of required equipment, tools and consumables for the establishment of AICTE IDEA Lab at our institute Sri Vasavi Engineering College, Pedatadepalli, Tadepalligudem 534101, Andhra Pradesh. For complete details please visit our website https://srivasaviengg.ac.in/aicteidealab/ Last Date is 20–09–2025 (3 PM)

CHENNAI PORT AUTHORITY
Civil Engineering Department
Notice for e-Tender
Tender No. T/JDA/31/2025/E
Online bids are invited under two cover system for "Rehabilitation of Oil Jetties 26B (BD I) and 27B (BD III) with allied buildings and Pipeline Trestles in Bharathi Dock at Chennai Port"
Estimated Cost Put to tender: Rs.1842.94 Lakhs (approx.) excl. GST.
For details visit our website: www.chennaiport.gov.in & http://eprocure.gov.in
Chief Engineer

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PUBLIC NOTICE
COSMOPOLITAN CLUB
CIN: U92411TN1934NPL000349
Regd. Office: 63, Anna Salai, Chennai 600 002
Phone: 044-28584353
E-mail: cosmonetcentre@gmail.com
Website: www.cosmopolitanclubchennai.com
NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the Club is scheduled to be held on Saturday, the 27th September 2025 at 10:35 a.m. to transact the agenda as set out in the Notice calling for the AGM.
Notice dated 25.7.2025 was dispatched to all members by Registered Post / Courier on 4th September 2025
The Club is providing the facility of voting through electronic means ("remote e-voting") in compliance with Sec.108 of the Companies Act 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014. The business as set out in the aforesaid Notice will be transacted through electronic voting facility provided by M/s Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL). The Executive Committee has appointed Sri K.M.Subheramaniam, Advocate, as Scrutinizer to oversee the remote e-voting.
The remote e-voting period begins on Wednesday, 24.9.2025 (9.00 a.m.) and ends on Friday, 26.9.2025 (5.00 p.m.). The e-voting module shall be disabled for voting after 5.00 PM on 26.09.2025 During this period, Members whose name appear in the Register of Members as on 7.09.2025 and those who are eligible as per Article-48 only shall be entitled to exercise their vote through e-voting process.
Members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting may attend the Meeting but shall not be allowed to vote again in the meeting. The members attending the meeting who have not already cast their vote by remote e-voting can exercise their right to vote at the meeting. The facility for voting by manual ballot will be made available at the meeting venue.
The notice of the meeting is displayed in the club's website www.cosmopolitanclubchennai.com and the e-voting website of CDSL: www.evotingindia.com. In case of grievances connected with the facility for voting by electronic means may be addressed to Mr. Rakesh Dalvi, Manager, (CDSL) Central Depository Services (India) Limited, A Wing, 25th Floor, Marathon Futurex, Mafatlal Mill Compounds, N M Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (East), Mumbai-400013 or send an email to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com or call on 022-23058738 / 022-23058542/43.
/ By order of the Executive Committee /
Place: Chennai Date : 05/09/2025
Sanjay Ramaswami Honorary Secretary

TAMILNADU RURAL TRANSFORMATION PROJECT [TNRTP] / VKP / TN-RISE
CHENNAI – 600 032
Roc. No. 12021/VKP/2024/A1, Dated : 04.09.2025.
Government of Tamil Nadu and The World Bank funded Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project [TNRTP] is inviting applications for the position of **Chief Executive Officer** for its undertaking **"TN-RISE Women Start-up Council".** **Candidates may obtain further information and applications procedures** from **www.vkp-tnrtp.org** The last date to submit application is on or before **17.09.2025.**
Managing Director, TN-RISE
Chief Executive Officer, TNRTP / VKP
DIPR/1028/DISPLAY/2025

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. SG-SWR-PROJ-UBL-EI BYC KDN Dated : 01-09-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
South Western Railway: Hubballi Division: Modernization of signalling system by provision of Electronic Interlocking system at Bellary Cant & Kudatini stations under SSE/Sig/Bellary section (Total - 02 Stns)	Rs. 28,12,92,959.82

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 29-09-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date
Deputy Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer Project, Hubballi
PUB/431/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26
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South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
"Jnana Sangama", Belagavi - 590018, Karnataka
Ref.No: VTU/BGM/RE/2025-26/IFT No.77/2735 Date: 03-09-2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)
(Through E-Procurement Only) (Exclusively for Scheduled Tribe Category Applicants)
The e-Tenders is invited in duplicate from eligible Tenderers, registered Contractor by the Registrar, Visvesvaraya Technological University, "Jnana Sangama", Belagavi - 18, under standard tender document procedure K/W format for the work of **Construction of Proposed New Hostel Rooms at 1st & 2nd Floor of Dining Block at VIAT, Campus, Muddenahalli, Chikkaballapur District. Amounting to Rs. 60,44,122/- (Excluding GST).** Other details log on to Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on 09-09-2025.**
Sd/- Registrar
VTU, Belagavi
DIPR/Belagavi/953/Adverto/2025-26

Govt. of Karnataka
Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, Bengaluru
(An Organisation of Government of Karnataka)
No.8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Karnataka Marketing Federation Building, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru-560052.
No: KREIS/INFR/OTH/117/2025-ADMN/E-221454 Date: 04.09.2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Only)
Short term Re-Tenders have been invited on 04.09.2025 for **Supply of Grinders to Residential Schools functioning under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society across Karnataka,** through e-Portal vide Indent No. **KREIS/2025-26/IND0081/CALL-2** and the last date for receipt of tenders is **19.09.2025.** The details may be viewed in the **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** website.
Sd/- Joint Director (Admin)
and Tender Inviting Authority, KREIS
DIPR/CP/YC/2661/2025-26

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTORATE OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION
Government of Karnataka
9th Floor Vishweshwaraih Towers, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore 560001.
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Email: sedmatech@gmail.com Website: www.municipaladmn.gov.in
No: 1902927/DMA/TECH/MISC/78/2025 Date: 04/09/2025
Expression of Interest (EOI)
It is to bring the notice of public, on behalf of the Director, Directorate of Municipal Administration, Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, Directorate of Municipal Administration, invites EOI for the following work. **Invitation for Expression of Interest for the quotation rates for Installation of the Dasara Exhibition stall at Mysuru for the display of Development works under various schemes under taken by Urban Development department excluding GBA (BBMP), Karnataka.** The last date for receipt of EOI proposal is scheduled on 08-09-2025, The tenderer manual submission of EOI proposal is requested.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer
Directorate of Municipal Administration
Bangalore
DIPR/CP/NR-2635/2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the public in General that my Clients are intent to purchase the Site No. 724, formed in Binnamangala Layout II Stage, Ulsoor P.O., Bangalore 8, presently known as 9th Cross, 10th 'A' Main, Indiranagar 2nd Stage, Binnamangala, Bangalore-560038, BBMP e-PID No. 3865009932, Ward No. 80 Hoysala Nagara, measuring East to West: 40 Feet and North to South:30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Square Feet, consists of Ground and First Floor RCC Roofed Residential Building, the descriptions of the property hereinafter referred to as the "Schedule Property" from it's owner **Mr. PREM KUMAR SWAYAM PRAKASH @ S. PREM KUMAR**, S/o. Late. K A Swayam Prakash.
This further informs to the Public that, if any person/s having any claim, objections, or interest over the Schedule Property shall be send their objections / claims to the below mentioned address within **15 days** along with all their necessary documents, otherwise my clients would be complete the Deed of Sale transaction with Mr. PREM KUMAR SWAYAM PRAKASH @ S. PREM KUMAR, S/o. Late. K.A Swayam Prakash in respect of the Schedule Property. If any objections/claims would come after **15 days** from the date of this public notice cannot be considered.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No. 724, formed in Binnamangala Layout II Stage, Ulsoor P.O., Bangalore 8, presently known as 9th Cross, 10th 'A' Main, Indiranagar 2nd Stage, Binnamangala, Bangalore- 560038, BBMP e-PID No. 3865009932, Ward No. 80 Hoysala Nagara, measuring East to West: 40 Feet and North to South:30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Square Feet, consisting of Ground and First Floor RCC Roofed Residential Building and bounded on the; **East by:** 9th Cross Road, **West by:** Site No. 741, **North by**: Site No. 723, **South by:** Site No. 725.
B.E. SHREEDHAR, Advocate
Office at No.15, 1st Floor, HAL Building, 1st Cross, C.K.C Garden, K.H. Road, near HCG Hospital, Bengaluru 560027.
Mobile:9964125501.
Email: sriramadvo@gmail.com

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - I
3rd Floor, Triveni Complex, Abids AT HYDERABAD
O.A.No.406 of 2024
Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993.
BETWEEN:
State Bank of India, Stressed Assets Recovery Branch Koti, Hyderabad. ...Applicant
And
2. K. Praveen Kumar
S/O. K. Kriahna Murthy Flat No.25, E-Block Nalluhali, Behind Briadge IRV Cebter Bangalore, North Karnataka. ...Defendatns
SUMMONS
WHEREAS **O.A. No.406 of 2024** was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer on **08-09-2025.**
WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/notice on the said Application under Section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of **Rs.88,27,873/-** (application along with copies of documents etc. annexed).
In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under:
(i) To show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted;
(ii) To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application;
(iii) You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties;
(iv) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal;
(v) You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realised by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.
You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof fusnished to the applicant and to appear before Presiding Officer on **08-09-2025** at 10:30A.M. Failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this date **01-09-2025**
REGISTRAR
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I
AKELLA SUBBALAKSHMI, Advocate,
Himayath Nagar, Hyderabad
Cell No. 9849560330

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to general public that my client, **Sri. Prakashanath Swamiji @ Shekarappa S/o. Honnegowda,** Aged about 59 years, Residing at No.CA-17, 1st 'B' Main Road, Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560 040, having lost the Original Registered Sale deed document No.KEN-I-22818/2006-07, Book I, CD No.KEND330, in the office of the Sub Registrar, Kengeri, dated 16.09.2006, in respect of Item No.1 & Registered Sale deed document No.KEN-I-22807/2006-07, Book I, CD No.KEND330, in the office of the Sub Registrar, Kengeri, dated 16.09.2006, in respect of Item No.II, in respect of the below mentioned Schedule Properties.
SCHEDULE PROPERTIES:
Item No.I) All the piece and parcel of the land in **Sy.No.171,** measuring **2 Acres,** situated at **Kumbalagodu Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore** and bounded on : **East by : Survey No.170, West by Sy.No.172, North by : Vacant land & South by : Road.**
Item No.II) All the piece and parcel of the land in **Sy.No.168**, measuring **2 Acres,** situated at **Kumbalagodu Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore** and bounded on **East by : Mr.Sulaiman;s land, West by : Road, North by : Fish Factory & South by : Survey No.169 of Kumbalgod Village.**
Sri. Prakashanath Swamiji @ Shekarappa has sworn to an affidavit dated 04.09.2025 before the notary and also has filed a complaint before the Bangalore City Police Station, Bangalore, on 25.08.2025, with Lost Report No.1769596/2025 & 1769572/2025, that effect. Any persons who found the said documents may please be handed over the same to below mentioned address within **15 days.**
Meenakshi B.R., Advocate
Gururaya Law Chambers
At : # 33, Rayara Kuteera, Varasiddinagar, Andhralli Main Road Peenya, Bangalore – 560 058.
Mob No. 9113088656,
Email – adv.meena17@gmail.com

TAMILNADU INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD (TIDCO)
CIN-U65993TN1965SGC005327
NOTICE NO. TIDCO/Projects/CoE/SC/2025 Date:05.09.2025
Tamilnadu Industrial Development Corporation Ltd (TIDCO) intends to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for semiconductor design and testing infrastructure development in Tamil Nadu. For this purpose, TIDCO invites proposals from the proposer with necessary expertise to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for semiconductor design and testing infrastructure development in Tamil Nadu in accordance with the Terms of Reference as set out in the Request for Proposal document.
Interested Consultants can download the RFP from the website **https://tidco.com.**
The schedule for processing the proposal is as follows: -
1. Pre-bid meeting at 17-09-2025, 03.00 PM at TIDCO Office, Egmore Chennai.
2. Last date and time for Submission of Proposals is on or before 10-10-2025 -03.00 PM at TIDCO office, Egmore Chennai.
MANAGING DIRECTOR
Tamilnadu Industrial Development Corporation Ltd
19-A, Rukmini Lakshmipathi Salai, Egmore, Chennai – 600 008 Ph: 044 – 2855 4421;
E-mail: cmd@tidco.com, karthikeyan@tidco.com; Website : https://tidco.com.
DIPR/4909/Tender/2025

Government of Karnataka
GULBARGA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, KALABURAGI
(Autonomous Institution of Govt. of Karnataka)
E-mail:directorgimsgulbarga@gmail.com Phone No 08472-260252
No. GIMS/KLB/Tender/HNS/CR/72/2025-26/1490 Date:-04-09-2025.
:: TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement) ::
Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences, Kalaburagi invites tender for eligible bidders in bid system (Techno-commercial Bid & Financial Bid) in e-procurement 2.0 mode for the SUPPLY OF Hospital Necessary Items for Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital Kalaburagi. Details are available in the site: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Last date and time for upload of e-tender in E-procurement platform as follows.
1) Commencement of download of e-Tender Form from website-https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in : No. GIMS/KLB/Tender/HNS/CR/72/2025-26 Date: 04-09-2025 No: DME/2025-26/IND1653 2) Last Date for Queries : 11-09-2025 at 17:00 pm, 3) Pre-bid Meeting: 15-09-2025 at 11:30 pm, 4) Last Date for Uploading of Tender in e-procurement platform on or before: 20-09-2025 at 4.30 pm, 5) Opening of Techno-Commercial Bid: 22-09-2025 at 05:00 pm, 6) Opening of Tenders Financial bid : 23-09-2025 at 11:30 am, 7) Tender amount : Rs. 1,07,61,269=00, 8) EMD : Rs. 1,61,500=00, 9) Contact Details: Director, GIMS Kalaburagi veresh Nagar sedam road Kalaburagi 585105. Office Email: directorgimsgulbarga@gmail.com, Land Line:08472-260252 Cell:+91 9482093568, Tender Section Email: gimstenderklb22@gmail.com , Cell:+91 9972688602
Sd/- Director,
Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences, Kalaburagi.
DIPR/Kalaburagi/467/KSMC&A/2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR HIRING AND AUCTION
HIRING OF CASUAL LABOUR FOR URC
1. Applications are invited from volunteers for the following post on daily wages basis at URC, ASC Centre & College.

Casual Employees	Vacancies	Education Qualification	Max Age Limit
Billing Clerk	03	12th	40 Yrs

2. **Professional Knowledge for Billing Clerk.** One year experience for oprating CIMS software and Index Number of URC items. Experience of having Professional Knowledge to be produced as proof.
3. **Working Hours, salary, locality & any other query.** Contact Main Office, URC.
4. **Police Verification & Medical Certificate.** Must & not more than six months old.
5. **Last Date of Submission Application / Resume.** 06 Sep 2025 at URC, received on & after 06 Sep 25 not accepted.
6. **Date of Interview & Location.** 10 Sep 2025 (1000hrs) at URC. Report with original documents by 0945hrs.
7. Interested candidates may send their recent CV and PP size photographs alongwith application addressed to URC Officer, URC ASC Centre & College, Agram Post, Bangalore 560007, so as to reach on or before 06 Sep 2025 in person.

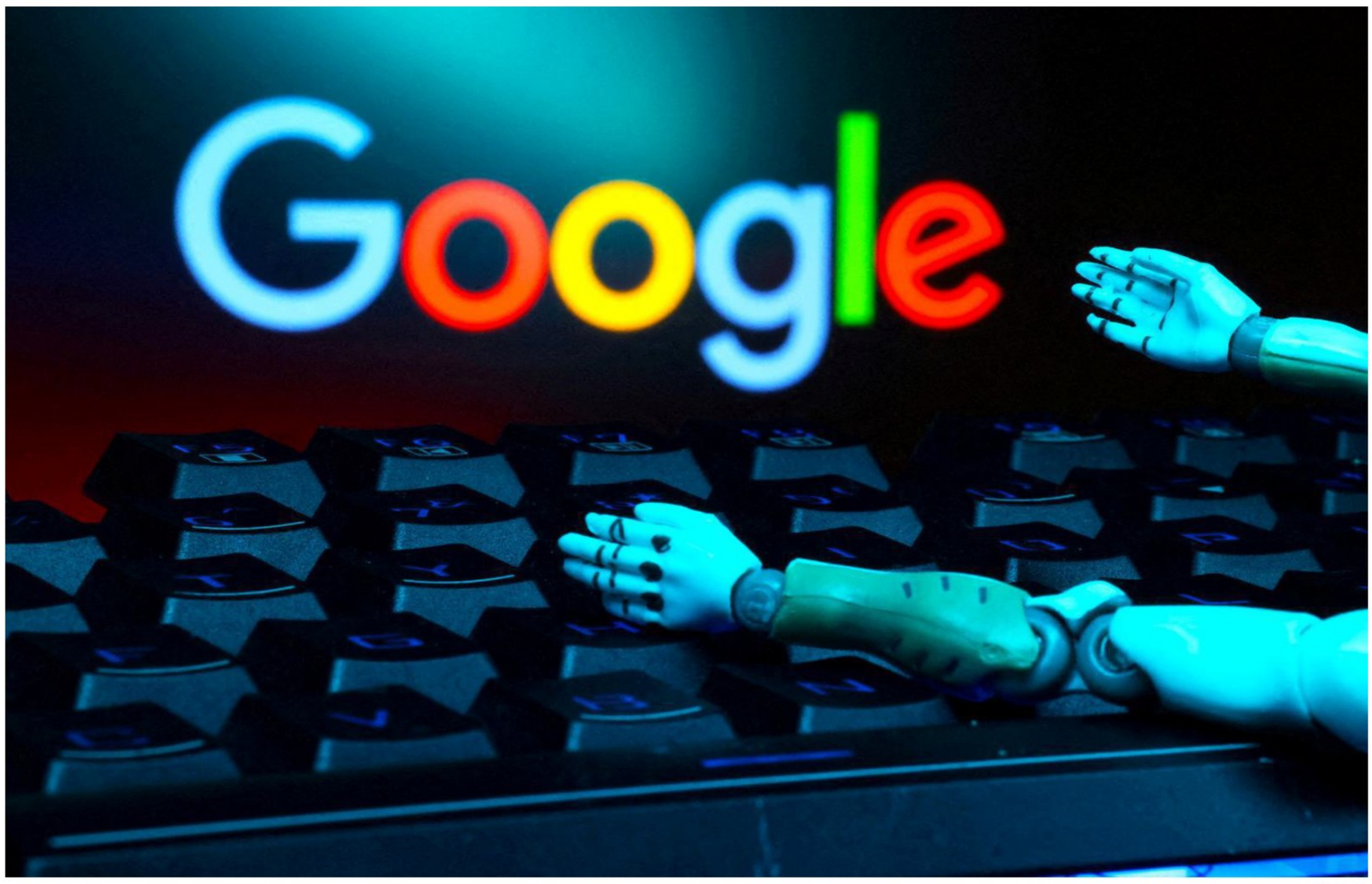
AUCTION
1. Auction of empty cartoons will be carried out at URC, ASC Centre & College on 10 Sep 2025. Highest-1 bidder will be awarded the bid. Vendor can visit the location for assessing quantity and quality of used cartoons.

THE HUTTI GOLD MINES COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Hutti - 584 115, Raichur Dist., Karnataka State. Ph: (08537)276339/275463
e-Mail: material276339@gmail.com website: www.huttigold.karnataka.gov.in
TENDER NOTIFICATION NO. 11/25-26 DT: 05.09.2025
(Through KPP Portal only)
Tender is invited by "The Senior Manager (Materials)" for the following Tenders as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Description	EMD in Rs.
1	Supply of ore handling V- shape Bandy. **HGML/2025-26/IND0355**	1,75,000/-
2	Hiring of Project Management Consultant (PMC) for Providing Water Supply Scheme to Hutti Gold Mines in Lingsugur Taluk of Raichur District from Basava Sagar Reservoir at Narayanpur. **HGML/2025-26/SE0056/CALL-2**	7,85,000/-
3	Procurement of Various sizes of G I Pipes. **HGML/2025-26/IND0366**	2,94,000/-

Calendar of Events: **(1)** Pre-Bid Meetings (Zoom): **12.09.2025 for Sl. No. 2 at 10.30 AM and 19.09.2025 Sl.No. 1 at 10.30 AM, Sl.No. 3 at 11.00 AM. (2)** Last date for receipt of tender: **19.09.2025 at 4.00 P.M for Sl.No. 2 & 03.10.2025 at 4.00 P.M for Sl. No. 1 & 3) (3)** Opening of Technical Bid on: **22.09.2025 at 10.00 A.M. for Sl.No. 2 & 06.10.2025 at 10.00 A.M. for Sl. No.1 & 3.** For further details interested bidders are advised to log on to website **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of undersigned during working hours. For participating in the above tender bidder needs to be registered in KPP Portal.
Sd/-Senior Manager (Materials)
LEADING GOLD PRODUCER IN INDIA

CACHE



REUTERS

Will Google lose its data moat after landmark U.S. court ruling?

Over the past two decades, Google has become synonymous with searching the internet, so much so that 'googling' has entered the global lexicon. Challenging this dominance, the U.S. Department of Justice (DoJ) and a coalition of states sued the Alphabet-owned company in 2020

John Xavier

The decision by U.S. District Court Judge Amit Mehta, compelling the Silicon Valley giant to share its search data with rivals, appears on the surface to be a significant blow. However, a deeper look into the mechanics of modern search and the trajectory of Artificial Intelligence (AI) suggests that while the landscape is changing, Google's fortress may be far from breached.

Over the past two decades, Google has become synonymous with searching the internet, so much so that "googling" has entered the global lexicon. The company reached this zenith by relentlessly refining its search engine, feeding it an ever-increasing volume of user queries and interaction patterns.

This information cemented Google's dominant position, keeping it years ahead as competitors languished. This technical superiority was reinforced by exclusive deals with device manufacturers, making Google the default search engine, pre-empting new users from ever testing alternative platforms.

Challenging this dominance, the U.S. Department of Justice (DoJ) and a coalition of states sued the Alphabet-owned company in 2020. In a pivotal moment, Judge Mehta ruled that "Google is a monopolist, and it has acted as one to maintain its monopoly." The court found that Google had spent billions on distribution deals to be the "out-of-the-box" search engine at all key entry points.

While the DoJ sought a structural breakup, including the divestment of the Chrome browser, the court instead ordered behavioural remedies aimed at restoring competition by lowering barriers for Google's rivals. The centre-piece of this remedy is the requirement for Google to open its vast trove of search data to "qualified competitors," a move designed to help them build more capable search products.

The old moat and the new frontier

To understand the ruling's true impact, one must first appreciate the architecture of Google's dominance. It rests on two pillars: a colossal, continuously updated index of the web and an unparalleled volume of user interaction data. The index is the library and the user data is the librarian's knowledge of which books are most useful for which questions.

Every search query, every click, every moment a user lingers on a page, and even how they refine a failed search provides a signal. This real-time feedback loop, collected from billions of devices through its default-by-design strategy, is the lifeblood that allows Google's algorithms to learn, adapt, and deliver superior relevance.

Judge Mehta's remedy, by forcing Google to share query and interaction data, is a direct assault on this data moat. The intention is to give competitors the raw material they need to train their own algorithms and build more comprehensive indexes. In theory, this levels the playing field. In practice, however, it may be a solution for a problem that is already being superseded by a new technological paradigm.

From search engine to GPT engine

The future of information retrieval is not a list of 10 blue links – it will be a direct, synthesised answer. We are witnessing the evolution from search engines to what can be described as GPT-powered answer engines. Driven by Large Language Models (LLMs), these new systems don't just point you to information; they understand, summarise, and generate it for you. Features like Google's AI Overviews are the opening act of this transformation. Users are no longer just "searching", they are engaging in a dialogue with an AI that provides a consolidated, conversational response.

In this new world, the nature of competitive advantage shifts dramatically. While the historical query data and web index that the court is ordering Google to share are valuable for building a foundational, traditional search engine, they are less critical for perfecting a generative AI-powered one. The new data is not what people searched for yesterday, but how they interact with the AI-generated answers of today.

Why Google's lead is set to expand

This is where Google's incumbency becomes an almost insurmountable advantage. The company's data moat isn't just its historical archive; it is its real-time, global-scale user-testing platform. As Google rolls out AI Overviews and other generative features across its products – Search, Chrome, Android – it gains access to a feedback loop of unparalleled scale.

Every time a user accepts an AI-generated answer, refines their prompt, or clicks on a source link within an overview, they are providing a signal that fine-tunes Google's models. This is Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback (RLHF) on a scale that no competitor can hope to replicate.

Rivals, even with access to Google's historical query logs, are essentially being given the blueprints to a 2020-era engine while Google is building a the next decade's answer engine. The data that truly matters for winning the AI race is the nuanced, personalised, real-time interaction data with generative models.

Google's distribution deals, while now deemed anti-competitive, have secured it the prime real estate to collect this next-generation data from billions of users.

The court's remedy may help a few competitors to build a better classic search engine, but it does little to help them challenge Google in the transition to an AI-first answer engine.

The moat, therefore, is not being drained; it is simply being re-engineered around a new, more advanced, and even more defensible technology.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Launched on September 5, 1977, Voyager 1 revealed volcanic moons and witnessed Saturn's rings up close. Take this quiz to see how well you know this interstellar pioneer

Prathmesh Kher

QUESTION 1
Which two gas giants did Voyager 1 fly past, and what key discoveries did it make during each encounter?

QUESTION 2
What milestone did Voyager 1 achieve in 2012, and why was it significant?

QUESTION 3
What powers Voyager 1, and how long is it expected to remain operational?

QUESTION 4
What is the Golden Record, and what was its purpose?

QUESTION 5
In approximately 40,000 years, Voyager 1 is expected to pass near a star currently located in which constellation?

Visual question:
What does this image show?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This person is perhaps most well known for leading Ottoman forces to victory at the Battle of Gallipoli in 1915. **Ans: Mustafa Kemal Atatürk**
2. This man was Kenya's Prime Minister in 1963-1964 and its first President in 1964-1978. **Ans: Jomo Kenyatta**
3. This person was a politician and revolutionary known for leading Ghana to independence from Britain in 1957. **Ans: Kwame Nkrumah**
4. Nguyễn Sinh Cung is credited with founding this nation in 1945. **Ans: Vietnam**
5. This man essayed a central role in the reconstitution of Uruguay, when he was in South America in exile. **Ans: Giuseppe Garibaldi**
Visual: Name this statesman known as "El Libertador". **Ans: Simón Bolívar**
Early Birds: Tamal Biswas| Sushil Prasad| Jha Akshay Amarendra| Prashansa Lohumi| Sudhir Thapa

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"How did you do on the test?"
"Not bad, actually. I managed to glimpse at my notes before I took it."
"You didn't 'glimpse' at your notes, you 'glanced' at them."
"Is there a difference between 'glance' and 'glimpse'?"
"Both glance and glimpse mean a 'quick look', but there is a difference in meaning between the two. When you 'glance' at something, you look at it intentionally. For example, I glanced at the newspaper headlines before I left for work."
"I sometimes glance at my neighbour's answers during exams."
"That's not a good thing to do. Here's another example. The policeman kept glancing in my direction."
"Now tell me, what does 'glimpse' mean?"
"When you catch a glimpse of something or someone, you catch sight of the object momentarily. In other words, you see it for a very brief period."
"And since I see the object only momentarily, it probably implies that I don't see it very clearly."
"That's right. For example, I caught a glimpse of my father in the crowd."
"Is it OK to say, I caught a glimpse of Gopa as he rode by in his new car?"
"It certainly is. Did you manage to meet Gopa yesterday?"
"Yes, I did. We discussed on cricket for a long time."
"You don't 'discuss on' something, you 'discuss' something. For example, we discussed cricket for a long time."
"My father discusses politics with his friends every day."
"My friends discuss movies during the lunch break."
"That sounds interesting. So, it's wrong to say 'discuss on'. Is it OK to say 'discuss about'?"
"No, it is incorrect to say 'discuss about'. We don't say, we discussed about movies. Instead we say, we discussed movies."
"I think I understand. Can we discuss something else now?"
"What would you like to discuss?"
"How do you pronounce f..i..a..n..c..e?"
"The first syllable 'fi' is pronounced like the 'fi' in 'fish'. The 'a' in the second syllable 'an' sounds like the 'o' in cot, not, and pot. And the final syllable is pronounced like the word say."
"And where is the stress?"
"Most British dictionaries tend to put the stress on the second syllable 'an'. Americans, on the other hand, stress the final syllable."
"I see. Tell me, what is the correct spelling? Is the last syllable of fiancé spelt c..e.. or c..e..e?"
"Both spellings are correct. When spelt with one 'e', the word refers to the man that a woman is engaged to."
"And when the final syllable contains two 'e's', the word refers to the woman a man is engaged to, I suppose."
"That's right."
"That's interesting. "
Published in The Hindu on December 30, 1997.

Word of the day

Squeamish:
excessively fastidious and easily disgusted

Synonyms: dainty, nice, prissy

Usage: *He was so squeamish he would only touch the handle with his elbow.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/squeamishpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /'skwi:mɪʃ/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Event on Siddi community

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), Bengaluru, will be hosting an event titled "Damami - Dreams, Drums and Roots" on September 6. The evening is dedicated to showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the Siddi community.

The event, from 3.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., will be held at the NGMA auditorium. It will feature a combination of film, conversation, and cultural expressions, offering attendees an in-depth look into the life and traditions of the Siddi people.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, SEP. 05	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:28
RISE 16:48	SET 03:39
SATURDAY, SEP. 06	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:27
RISE 17:33	SET 04:36
SUNDAY, SEP. 07	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:26
RISE 18:15	SET 05:32

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	28	21
Bengaluru	28	20

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light to moderate rain and thundershower.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Night also will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

'Will make amendments in law to bring back ballot papers in local body polls'

Govt. sources say the recommendations for the voters' list had come after the SEC sought amendments based on the provisions in the GBA Act

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government plans to bring in suitable amendments to various provisions of law to bring back ballot papers in local body polls.

Speaking after the Cabinet meeting here on Thursday, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil said amendments would be brought to Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Raj Act, 1993, Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964, and Greater Bengaluru Governance Act, 2024, that govern the conduct of elections. He also acknowledged that the State Election Commission (SEC) is an independent body under Articles 243 (K) and 243 (ZA) of the Indian Constitution.

H.K. Patil says till now, the voters list prepared for the Assembly constituencies were being considered. GETTY IMAGES

Binding on SEC

"At this point in time, the Cabinet has made recommendations, which may be accepted or not. However, once we make suitable changes in the laws and rules, it will be binding on the SEC," Mr. Patil indicated.

3,450 page report

When asked if they did not trust EVMs after winning 139 seats in the 224-member Karnataka Legislative Assembly, the Minister said, "Though we trust the results, we should have won 170 seats."

He also pointed out a 3,450 page report that he had submitted to the Legislative Assembly, highlighting "manipulations in EVMs", which eventually was not accepted by the Election Commission of India.

Power to prepare rolls

In the light of "vote chori" allegations, Mr. Patil also said that the Cabinet has decided to recommend to the SEC to consider revision of voters list for the elections to the local bodies. "Till now, the voters list prepared for the Assembly constituencies were being considered. We are seeking changes in the light of 'vote theft' discussions. There have been discrepancies in in the voters list." The recommendation is to consider revising or redoing the voters list, he added.

Government sources said that the recommendations for the voters list had come after the SEC sought necessary amendments based on the provisions in the GBA Act. Seeking necessary amendments to the GBA act, the SEC has said that the if the State government did not intend to adopt the Assembly electoral rolls, the SEC may be given power to prepare the electoral rolls for the elections of councillors under GBA Act.

It pointed out that the GBA Act is silent with respect to preparation of electoral rolls by the SEC or adopting the Assembly electoral roll. The SEC Commissioner G.S. Sangreshi, in his letter, has also said that the constitutional provisions do not direct the SECs to adopt the Legislative Assembly electoral rolls.

He has sought framing of rules related to Registration of Electoral Rolls by the SEC itself similar to that of Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, framed under The Representation of People's Act, 1950, or bring amendment to Section 35 of Greater Bengaluru Governance Act regarding preparation of electoral rolls similar to provisions in Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Raj Act, 1993, Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964, and Karnataka Municipal Corporation Act, 1976.

Invitation to CM

Formal invite: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah being officially invited to the Dasara festival by Mysuru Deputy Commissioner G. Lakshmikanth Reddy and Minister in charge of Mysuru district H.C. Mahadevappa in Bengaluru on Thursday. Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh and other officials were present. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

FIR for posting abusive comments on CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The social media monitoring cell of the Central Crime Branch, Bengaluru, on Wednesday registered an FIR against a group of people for posting abusive and derogatory comments against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Based on the complaint filed by Shrishaila Bagalura, an officer with the Social Media Monitoring Cell, the Cybercrime Police Station charged the accused running the Facebook account "Hanuma Bhakta", charging him under IT Act, 2000. While the accused used abusive, offensive and derogatory words against the Chief Minister, other users identified as Jnaneshwari Vishwanath, Shivashankarappa, Rajashekhar Raju, and Siddappa Siddu also posted abuses, while commenting on the post.

They have also been booked. The police are now tracking down the accused.

SEC ready to revert to ballot papers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following the State Cabinet's recommendation, the State Election Commission (SEC) has said that it is ready to revert to ballot papers for the panchayat and urban local body (ULB) polls, as per rules.

State Election Commissioner G.S. Sangreshi told *The Hindu* that the commission will conduct the polls by revising the electoral rolls as per recommended rules. "We have been using ballot papers for gram panchayat polls so far. EVMs were used in ZP/TP and urban local body polls. Now we are ready to use ballot papers for both gram panchayat and ZP/TP polls," he said.

Stating that elections to the five corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) will most likely be held in February next year, Mr. Sangreshi said the conduct of Zilla Panchayat (ZP)/ Taluk Panchayat (TP) polls will depend on revision of the electoral rolls. "We will have to see how much time the revision of rolls will take. These elections will be announced after the State government fixes reservations for various constituencies," he said.

The ZP/TP elections in Karnataka have been pending since May 2021 owing to a delay in the delimitation of panchayat constituencies and notifying reservation. The State government in 2022 divested the State Election Commission of its powers to carry out the delimitation exercise and draw up the reservation.

However, the State government failed to carry out these two exercises in time and thus delayed the polls. After much persuasion, it did complete the delimitation process in December 2023 but it is yet to notify reservation of seats.

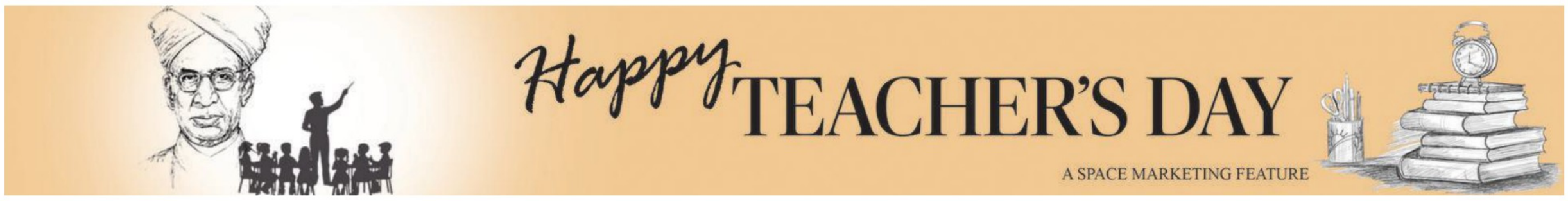
Intermittent power supply

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

There will be an intermittent power supply in several areas of Bengaluru from September 6 to 12. The power outages will occur between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. to facilitate the augmentation of a power transformer.

The affected areas are serviced by Power Transformer-3 of 66/11 kV Banaswadi MUSS.

According to a release, the scheduled power cuts are necessary to replace the existing 1x20MVA Transformer 3 with a new 1x31.5 MVA Power Transformer. Residents in the following areas will experience the intermittent supply: 7th A and 9th Main, HRBR Layout, HRBR Layout 2nd Block, TNS Layout, Kullappa Circle, Banjara Layout, Banjara Arcade, Manjunath Nagar, Andra Colony, Punyabhoomi Layout, and surrounding areas.



Teacher's Day – A Tribute to the Architects of Society

Teachers' Day, celebrated on 5th September, holds immense significance in India. It honors the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, a remarkable teacher and philosopher who became the second President of India.

This day is dedicated to acknowledging the invaluable role of teachers in shaping our lives and future. Teachers Day is not just about offering gratitude but also about recognising their selfless contributions to education and nation-building. The importance of Teacher's Day lies in the fact that it acknowledges the critical role teachers play in building a nation. Teaching is often referred to as the noblest profession. Unlike many other professions that focus on material outcomes, teaching focuses on intellectual and emotional growth, on helping young minds discover their potential and purpose.

Teachers are not just conveyors of information. They are mentors, role models, and sometimes even parental figures. They not only teach us subjects like mathematics, science, or literature, but they also impart life lessons, values, and ethics. From instilling discipline and curiosity to developing confidence and communication skills, teachers shape both the minds and hearts of their students. While teachers are celebrated for their contributions, it is important to recognize the challenges they face.

Many teachers work with limited resources, large classrooms, and administrative burdens. They often work overtime to prepare lessons, grade assignments, and provide individual attention to students.

It is our collective responsibility to ensure that teachers receive the respect, support, and resources they deserve. A strong educational system depends not only on the curriculum but also on the well-being and empowerment of its educators. Over the years, the role of teachers has evolved significantly.

With the advent of technology and the internet, information is now available at our fingertips. However, this has not reduced the importance of teachers. In fact, it has enhanced their role as facilitators, guides, and mentors. are essential skills in the 21st-century world. Moreover, teachers today also play a significant role in mental and emotional well-being.

With rising levels of stress and competition among students, teachers act as counselors and emotional support systems, helping students cope with pressure and find balance in their lives. Modern teachers are not just lecturers; they are collaborators in learning. They help students sift through vast amounts of information, identify reliable sources, and apply knowledge in practical and meaningful ways.

Dr Wooday P Krishna, Honorary General Secretary Seshadripuruam Educational Trust quotes "Teacher are our nation builders. Unlike other professions the profession of a teacher is held in high esteem in our Indian culture. The teacher not only just imparts knowledge but also inculcates values in their students.

On the occasion of Teacher's Day, I send out my greetings to the teaching fraternitywho have been toiling to build the lives of our youth empowering them with knowledge and culture".

"Education is incomplete without the guidance of a good teacher" quoted by Prof Basavaraj Ramnal, Chairman Karnataka College Group of Institutions.

Teachers' Day is more than a celebration, it is a reminder to always recognise the hard work, sacrifices, and devotion that teachers put into making society and the nation a better place. By honouring teachers, we honour knowledge, values, and progress.

Teacher's Day is more than just a celebration—it is a reminder of the lifelong impact that educators have.

Every successful person, every inventor, every leader, and every thinker has been shaped by the hands of a teacher at some point in their journey. While one day is not enough to repay what teachers do for us, it is a chance to pause, reflect, and say "Thank You."

A thank you for their patience, dedication, knowledge, guidance, and most importantly, for believing in us even when we didn't believe in ourselves.

Let us not confine our appreciation to a single day. Instead, let us honor our teachers every day by embodying the values they taught us, striving for excellence, and becoming responsible, kind, and thoughtful individuals.

To all the teachers out there—Happy Teacher's Day. You are the true heroes of our society, and your legacy lives on in every life you touch.

SESHADRIPURAM EDUCATIONAL TRUST
(Since 1930)
Seshadripuram Institute of Technology
(Affiliated to Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi, Karnataka and Approved by AICTE, New Delhi.)
Wishing you
Happy Teachers Day
ComedK Code : E-212
K-CET Code : E-307
ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR 2025-26
for the following Engineering Programs
B.E.
• Mechanical Engineering
• Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
• Computer Science & Engineering
• Electrical & Electronics Engineering
• Information Science & Engineering
• Electronics and Communication Engineering
The institute is nestled on an expansive 10-acre Campus amidst serene environs on the outskirts of the Heritage City of Mysuru. Housed in a modern building with revolutionary design, it is embellished with state-of-the-art infrastructure and facilities. The highly experienced faculty facilitates excellent Academic Foundation for budding professionals.
Campus No. 4, 5, 6A, 6B & 7B, Kadakola Industrial Area, Mysuru - 571 311.
Contact : Phone No. +91-96064 50926 / +91-96064 50925 / 0821-2440024
E-Mail: sitsetmysuru@gmail.com Website: sitmysore.ac.in
N. R. Pandith Aradhya President
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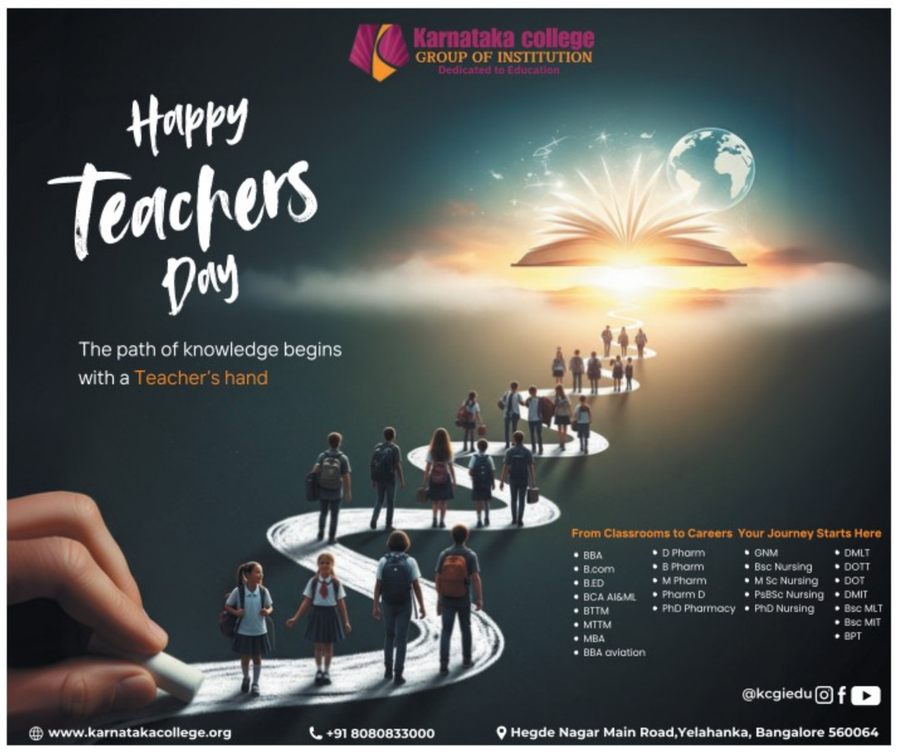

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

Learning block: While free and compulsory education has been promised for all children between the ages of 6 and 14 under the Right to Education Act, 2009, the shortage of teachers is a major obstacle in providing this basic education in government schools. FILE PHOTO

Too many students, too few teachers

A whopping 85,495 teaching posts are vacant across government-run educational institutions in Karnataka, with guest faculty making up for them. On Teachers' Day, Jayanth R. looks at its impact on the quality of education

A chemistry lecturer in a government-run pre-university college in Hassan has been asked to divide his time between two colleges this academic year. He has been posted to another college for three days a week on deputation to make up for the absence of teachers for this subject there.

This system, he argues, can badly impact learning process in both colleges. "If there is no continuous teaching, especially in science, the students cannot be expected to do well in exams. Since I have been sent on deputation, the academic activities of my parent college are hampered."

Attempts to make up for massive vacancies in government-run educational institutions in Karnataka, from primary schools to professional colleges and universities, has had a debilitating impact. While guest lecturers and teachers are periodically hired in some, other methods like deputation are also used to make up for vacant posts.

When the National Medical Commission (NMC) rejected the request of the State Medical Education Department to open two new medical colleges in Ramanagara and Kanakapura of Bengaluru South district (formerly Ramanagara) for the year 2025-26, one of the key reasons cited was the shortage of teaching faculty.

The final report of the State Education Policy (SEP), recently submitted to the State government, also made a specific mention of "a large number of vacant teaching posts for many years" as the reason for the decline in the quality of education.

> There are many guest teachers in government schools, who are not trained as regular teachers. This is affecting the quality of education.
>
> **UMESH G. GANGAVADI,** State president, School Development Monitoring Committee

Ironic situation

Karnataka is seen as a hub of education and boasts of institutions at the national and international level such as the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), the National Law School India University (NLSIU), and the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB). The State's educational institutions are the first priority for higher education of students from India and abroad.

However, ironically, a whopping 85,495 teaching posts are vacant across government-run educational institutions in Karnataka, when those coming under Departments of School Education and Literacy (DSEL), Higher Education, Technical Education, Medical Education, and 32 public universities across the State are taken into account. Out of 2,85,103 teaching posts sanctioned, only 1,99,608 have been filled.

While this gap in most places is made up by "guest faculty", this year, there has been a delay in even these appointments in colleges owing to a pending court case that has questioned the qualifying criteria.

On the other hand, while there has been much talk on the need to bring education up to speed with emerging technologies, no posts have been created for teaching courses such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Robotics, Machine Learning (ML), and such others that are seen as key sectors in the days to come.

In schools

While free and compulsory education has been promised for all children between the ages of 6 and 14 under the Right to Education Act, 2009, the shortage of teachers is a major obstacle in providing this basic education in government schools.

According to the data of DSEL, there are a total of 46,776 government schools, including 41,905 primary schools and 4,871 high schools, with about 52 lakh students. Though the State government has sanctioned 2,32,937 teacher posts, 61,525 are vacant.

To make up this shortage, the process of transfer and reassignment of excess teachers for the current academic year is under way, and 43,526 guest faculty members have been appointed for the vacant posts.

Madhu Bangarappa, Minster for School Education and Literacy, said that the process of filling these posts is under way. "Around 14,499 graduate primary teachers have been recruited in 2024. In this State Budget, the Chief Minister has announced of recruiting for 5,267 teaching posts in Kalyana Karnataka and 5,000 in other regions."

The situation in colleges is no different. In the 1,229 government pre-university (PU) colleges in Karnataka, with a total of 12,923 lecturer posts sanctioned, only 8,150 have been filled with permanent teachers. In the 430 government-run first grade colleges running under the Collegiate Education Department, not a single post among the sanctioned 374 grade-1 principal and 38 grade-2 principal posts have been filled.

M.C. Sudhakar, Minister for Higher and Technical Education, said that the process is under way to remedy this. "Since the number of emerging courses has increased, steps will be taken to sanction additional posts accordingly. In addition, the process of recruiting 310 principal posts in government first-grade colleges is already in the final stage," he said.

The situation in colleges is particularly dire this year owing to an ongoing court case that has halted the process of hiring even guest faculty.

Earlier, the government had appointed about 10,500 guest faculty members to meet the shortage in degree colleges. Some guest lecturers had approached the High Court to make University Grants Commission (UGC) norms mandatory for the appointment of guest faculty in degree colleges. The court, in its verdict in September, 2024, ordered that only candidates who fulfilled the UGC norms should be appointed, Following this, more than 5,500 candidates without NET, K-SET, and PhD qualifications lost their posts.

The government has filed an appeal in this regard, and the case is still pending. Therefore, even though classes have started in degree colleges for the year 2025-26, guest faculty have not been appointed so far. "A verdict is expected by the end of September and action will be taken to appoint guest faculty soon," Sudhakar explained.

Remedial measure: Madhu Bangarappa, Minster for School Education and Literacy, has said the process of filling vacant posts in schools is under way. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Languishing universities

State-run universities under the Higher Education Department too are languishing without permanent teachers. There are 32 public universities in Karnataka, with a total of 5,653 teacher posts sanctioned, of which only 2,171 have been filled.

Class woes

Institutions	Sanctioned posts	Teachers employed	Vacant posts
Primary and high schools	2,32,937	1,71,412	61,525
Government PU colleges	12,923	8,150	4,773
Government polytechnics	3023	1,727	1,296
Government first grade colleges	7,942	6,403	1,539
Government engineering colleges	765	332	433
Government medical colleges	21,860	9,413	12,447
Public universities	5,653	2,171	3,482

In addition, out of the 6,205 non-teaching posts sanctioned, only 1,679 have been filled.

Notably, none of the teaching posts sanctioned to the recently started universities in Kodagu, Bagalkot, Haveri, Chamarajanagar, Hassan, Mandya, and Koppal are filled. Similar is the situation in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar School of Economics University-Bangalore, Maharani Cluster University, Nrupathunga Cluster University, and Dr. Gangubai Hangal Music and Performing Arts University, Mysuru. There are 219 teaching posts vacant in the State's oldest university, the University of Mysore.

What is more, the post of Vice-Chancellor (VCs) is vacant in Gulbarga University, Bangalore City University, Karnataka State Dr. Gangubai Hangal Music and Performing Arts University, and Maharani, Nrupathunga and Mandya Cluster Universities.

"A Cabinet sub-committee headed by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has held several meetings and discussed the issue of filling up the vacant posts in State-run universities," said Sudhakar.

Technical education

While Karnataka prides itself as a hub of technical education, a large number of teaching posts remain vacant in government engineering colleges and polytechnics under the Technical Education Department.

There are 109 government polytechnics in the State, and as per the All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) norms, there should be 3,438 teaching posts. However, of the government-sanctioned posts of 3,023, only 1,727 posts have been filled. A total of 17 government engineering colleges should have 1,020 teaching posts as per AICTE rules. But, the government has sanctioned only 765, of which only 332 posts have been filled.

In nine engineering colleges and 27 polytechnics, no teaching post has been filled with permanent faculty and they run only with guest faculty. Principals of nearby technical colleges have been given the responsibility of administration.

The Technical Education Department faces a peculiar problem of the Cadre and Recruitment (C&R) Rules not being framed for about 16-17 years. "Our government is framing the rules for the first time. The Chief Minister has announced in this year's Budget to fill 2,000 posts in the Collegiate and Technical Education Department," said Sudhakar, adding that a meeting had been held with the Finance Department and senior officials regarding the filling of vacant posts.

Medical education

The absence of permanent teachers has, for medical education, meant a roadblock to sanctioning new colleges. There are 22 government medical colleges in Karnataka with 21,860 sanctioned posts. Out of these, only 9,413 have been filled.

While NMC has not sanctioned any new government colleges to the State this year owing to non-filling of vacancies, it had issued show cause notices to all 22 government medical colleges for not meeting criteria including filling up posts. It had imposed penalty on 16 government medical colleges in the range of ₹2 lakh to ₹16 lakh in the year 2024-25.

With the internal reservation issue now resolved, action will be taken to fill the vacant posts in government medical colleges, promised Sharanprakash Patil, Minister for Medical Education.

Declining standards

Absence of quality faculty is cited as one of the reasons for declining standards of education on the whole.

For example, the impact is visible in SSLC results. "There are a large number of guest teachers in government schools, who are not trained as regular teachers. Moreover, there is no official criteria for their selection. This is significantly affecting the quality of education. For example, while the class 10 and 12 results in Central curriculum schools are above 80% every year, the SSLC and II PU results in State curriculum schools have failed to reach 75% in the three annual examinations," pointed out Umesh G. Gangavadi, State president, School Development Monitoring Committee (SDMC).

On the other hand, Karnataka's universities and degree colleges are not doing well in the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) national ranking. NAAC has given three reasons for this: scarcity of teaching staff, quality of the teaching, and lack of infrastructure. The commission recommended that about 20,000 posts which are vacant in the higher education sector in Karnataka should be filled within five year. It argued against the very concept of guest lecturers in higher education institutions.

The declining enrolment in State universities is also a warning sign. "Despite having excellent campuses and infrastructure, the quality in universities is declining owing to a shortage of teaching faculty. Due to this, students and parent prefer to go for private universities. Most of the people studying in public universities are SC, ST, and OBC students. This year, students did not enrol in nine departments of the University of Mysore. Therefore, the entrance test has been cancelled for 20 courses and only around 5,000 applications have been received for admission to PG courses. Shortage of faculty also affected research activities," said the Vice-Chancellor of a public university.

Former Higher Education Minister and former chairman of the Karnataka Legislative Council B.K. Chandrashekar observed that neglect of public universities is a trend observed across India over the past few years. "Owing to this, private universities are profiting. Public universities are the backbone of higher education for the poorest of poor in society," he said, underlining the need for a law that guarantees "Right to University Education."

He also suggested that instead of establishing universities in every district, the focus should be on filling vacancies in existing ones and strengthening them.

Cutting through silence

Filmmaker Bheemrao P opens up on his debut film *Hebbuli Cut*, and his fondness for balancing social themes with entertainment

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Mainstream Kannada cinema has shied away from the topic of caste. For filmmaker Bheemrao P, it was important to ensure his debut venture was not nipped in the bud. While promoting his movie, *Hebbuli Cut,* he called the film a tender story of a boy's dream to get a fancy hairstyle. The film is more than that, but Bheemrao wanted to generate buzz around his film, before anything else.

"The moment you mention Ambedkarism, a section of people will distance themselves from your movie. Hence, I stressed the fact that my movie was a 'commercially engaging social drama'," he tells *The Hindu*.

Released in theatres on July 04 this year, *Hebbuli Cut* made noise among a small crowd, mostly comprising critics and followers of niche content. The film has seen increased acceptance since its recent release on an OTT platform. "I see people writing long posts on social media about my film. It is getting discussed on multiple forums," he says.

Hebbuli Cut, set in Chandrabanda village near the North Karnataka-Telangana border, tells the story of the school-going Vinay (Mounesh Nataranga), who is unruffled by the harsh realities of his surroundings. The film's conflict revolves around Vinay's desire to get a hairstyle similar to Superstar Sudeep from the 2017 action thriller *Hebbuli*. However, his dream is crushed by social bias.

First cut Bheemrao P; a still from from the film. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Bheemrao was impressed by Dr Rajkumar's hairstyle in the 1979 action drama *Nanobba Kalla*.

The film became the starting point of *Hebbuli Cut,* but he needed a recent phenomenon to attract the mainstream audiences. That is how Sudeep's hairstyle in *Hebbuli* became an integral part of the script. In 2017, the hairstyle was a craze among students. So much so that a disgruntled headmaster from Bagalkot wrote a letter to a salon requesting them to avoid styling students' hair in that fashion.

Back then, perhaps not many imagined a scenario where a boy would be denied the trendy hairstyle because of the family he belonged to. "Even today, people aren't comfortable about speaking about inequality," Bheemrao says. "Many people, including those in my circles enjoyed *Hebbuli Cut,* but they weren't ready to accept the presence of unfair prejudice existing in society. My film is based on a real incident. Maybe, those living in metropolitan cities might not be aware of such injustices faced by people elsewhere," he says, adding that a recent incident in Gujarat came as a timely validation for his story.

It was widely reported that decades of prejudice ended when Kriti Chauhan became the first Dalit to walk into a barber's shop in Alawada village in Gujarat's Banaskantha district. For generations, around 300-odd Dalits travelled to other places for grooming as they were denied services by local barbers in their village.

Inspired writing

Bheemrao is still finding his voice as a filmmaker. He is drawn towards movies that address societal issues. For over a decade, filmmakers such as Pa Ranjit and Mari Selvaraj have spurred a movement in Tamil cinema with movies that challenged caste-based discrimination. "Pa Ranjit is very aggressive in how he conveys his displeasure towards society. Mari Selvaraj tackles serious topics in an engaging fashion. I prefer Mari's films over Ranjith's."

He is also an admirer of Marathi filmmaker, Nagaraj Manjule. "His films don't try hard to portray inequality, yet they move you. That shows his calibre. I loved his *Fandry* (2014). I could relate to the Dalit teenager's fight against societal expectations. The final scene, in which he throws a stone at the camera, thereby breaking the fourth wall, is the director's revolt against the biased world. It had a huge impact on me."

Bheemrao prefers churning out engaging stories based on important subjects. "In the past, few Kannada films on caste used melodrama to drive home the message. This kind of approach doesn't work with audiences."

Bheemrao's approach to blend entertainment with a message is evident in the beautifully-shot song 'Haadu Hagalalle', in *Hebbuli Cut*. "The song reveals the feelings of the boy, who has fallen in love with an upper caste girl. It is my way of vouching for secularism as he dreams of living happily with the girl and her family," he says, adding that he is currently writing another 'commercial' film.

"I don't want to be boxed in as a niche filmmaker. Steven Spielberg made *Jurassic Park* (1997), a larger-than-life adventure drama, but he also made a feel-good movie like *The Terminal* (2004). I am inspired by the sheer variety of his filmography."

A start at art

Mumbai's Baro Art is back in Bengaluru this weekend with a curated range of artists

Eye of the beholder One of the pieces at Baro Market's Affordable Art Show 2025. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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Over the past few years, Baro Art has made a name for itself with its eclectic collection of art works from around the country. Curated by Srila Chatterjee, founder of Mumbai-based Baro Art, the event titled Affordable Art Show, is not only a platform for artists around the country, but is also a showcase of diverse art forms.

According to Srila, this edition of the Affordable Art Show titled, India in Nature: Traditions and Transformations, will include traditional, tribal and contemporary work. "The idea behind this show is to democratise art. Since many people are intimidated by art galleries, events such as these help them feel comfortable viewing works in such a setting," says Srila.

In keeping with their ethos, the works at Baro's Affordable Art Show range from ₹3000 to ₹3 lakh, making it an interesting proposition irrespective of the depth of one's pockets.

"We believe in giving people access to joy. Art should speak to you and with that in mind we present the largest possible array of works so there is something for everyone," says Srila.

Team members from Baro will be present at the event to discuss the works on display with visitors, educating them about traditional Indian art forms as well as contemporary works. They would also aid first-time buyers should they require assistance.

Srila continues, "The early 2000s saw the rise of a trend where people saw art as an investment, spending a lot of money in the hope that it would be profitable at a later date. We want to showcase the many kinds of art that exists in the hopes that it will forge a connect between the eyes and the heart. And hopefully, this exhilaration will lead people into doing a deep-dive into art that excites them."

The upcoming show will see works by around 40 artists with over 100 framed works mounted on the walls and 500 pieces on paper and cloth displayed on tables, apart from works on other media such as lenticular prints, mirrors, mixed-media woodwork, and photographs.

The Affordable Art Show will be held at Bangalore International Centre from September 5, 11am till September 7, 7pm. Entry free.

Manga for dinner

The new Edo at Bengaluru's ITC Gardenia is part club, part anime convention. But when it comes to food, the menu is classical Japanese

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Toon in Edo is where fine dining and the classics meet a contemporary plating. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

I left clubbing behind with tequila shots, neon body paint, and my twenties. Yet, Edo at Bengaluru's ITC Gardenia makes me feel cool again with its Tokyo vibe and Ibiza lights.

We are welcomed by an Andy Warhol-esque Mickey Mouse statue bathed in cool purples. A pop-culture icon, Mickey has inspired everyone from KAWS to Takashi Murakami, proving that reinvention keeps you relevant.

As the bartender slides across shots of icy, mellow sake, Amandeep Kaur, the vibrant young general manager of the hotel, explains why they decided to reinvent their popular Japanese restaurant. "Edo launched in 2010 with the hotel, and it was time to create a space that would resonate with everyone."

The effect is evident. In the evenings ITC Gardenia buzzes with young hipsters who would seem more at home at Comic Con than a lobby, a perceptible shift in tempo. The biggest challenge with change, however, is finding a way to shape-shift subtly enough to keep the regulars happy.

Edo's solution? The lights may be neon and the spirit Izakaya, but the restaurant's soul is the same. Chef Amit Patra sensibly resists the temptation to jazz up the menu and thankfully offers authentic interpretations of Japan's favourite exports: sushi, sashimi, tempura, teppanyani, and ramen.

For those in the mood for exotica, try the Hokkaido scallops, served with baby pumpkin sauce and yuzukosho fermented chillies, a provocative blend of sweet, spicy and salty. And for those who dine for the 'gram, he serves Duck Usuzukuri – where delicate wobbly slivers of duck and slices of cucumber topped with tobiko are arranged like a chequerboard.

There is depth in the cooking and skill in the plating, because it all pivots on details.

The cocktail book is a tribute to Japanese manga, and

we order Celery, an addictively savoury cocktail with sesame-infused tequila, jalapeño brine and homemade celery liqueur. My next cocktail, a refreshing Jet Black highball made with coffee whisky, yuzu and green apple, is inspired by one of the core characters in *Cowboy Bebop*.

The Edo signature includes a nod to popular high street sushi, like crispy California rolls and crunchy fried vegetables, in addition to more gourmet options like a Norwegian salmon and avocado roll, and a chutoru medium fatty tuna scallion roll.

If you order one thing here, make it the pork kakuni. In the chef's painstaking interpretation of this braised pork belly dish from Nagasaki, the meat is marinated in rice water; slow-cooked for 18 hours; braised in soy, mirin and ginger; then finished over a robatayaki, a Japanese charcoal grill, for smoky, caramelised notes.

Chef Amit discusses how much time goes into the prep for each meal to ensure depth of flavour. "I take pride in explaining that we do a 72-hour broth for our ramen," he says.

Japanese restaurants in India tend to underplay dessert, but Amit does not let us down: there is a black sesame ice cream, yuzu and raspberry petit, and - of course - matcha, in the form of tres leches. I try the brulee with passion fruit and wasabi. It is crisp and memorable.

The menu ends with the line 'the legend became a new light.' I conscientiously do some research, just so I can end this story with an appropriate quote. As Monkey D Luffy, of One Piece, said, "If you don't take risks, you can't create the future."

It is a good thing team Edo had the courage to take a risk.

STEPOUT

Matters of the mind

Anxious Minds, Restless Hearts, an interactive session led by Mandeep Kaur Bhalla, a licensed clinical psychologist, will take place this weekend. The session has been designed for working professionals and young adults struggling with silent anxiety, inner restlessness and mental exhaustion.
At Atta Galatta, Indiranagar on September 6, 4 pm onwards. Tickets, priced at ₹500, can be purchased on BookMyShow

Cause and effect

The 10th edition of Pedal for the Planet, a community-led green initiative promoting cleaner and greener ways of commuting and living, presented by the Embassy Group, will be held in the city.
At Embassy Springs, Navarathna Agrahara, September 14, 6 am onwards. Tickets can be purchased at district.in.

Classical nuances

Nrityangana Institute of Performing Arts is set to present the second edition of Sampradaya, its highly acclaimed festival of dance traditions, which brings alive the timeless essence of Indian classical forms while also weaving in contemporary reflections.
At Seva Sadan, Malleswaram on September 12, starting from 6 pm. For more details, call 8355996919.

Vegan friendly

Namu Recommends Vegan Market – The Festive Edit, which brings together over 130 brands from across India, will be held in the city this weekend.
At Chamara Vajra, Jayamahal on September 6 and 7, 12 pm to 8 pm. Entry free.

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BJP calls new GST regime 'historic'; Congress asks how State's revenue loss will be covered

The reforms would cause the State an additional loss of ₹15,000 crore per year, says Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

While the BJP State unit has welcomed the revamped GST two-slab system as a "Deepavali gift to people by the Narendra Modi-led government", the ruling Congress leaders have expressed concern over the revenue shortfall that States like Karnataka would face.

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, the State's representative in the GST Council, has estimated that the new GST regime would cause Karnataka an additional loss of ₹15,000 crore per year, even as ₹70,000 crore is being lost annually. While Karnataka was not opposed to rationalisation, it should be compensated for the shortfall in revenue, he said.

On X, the Congress party said, "Karnataka loses ₹70,000 crore every single year because of the Modi government's GST betrayal... Our schools, hospitals, farmers struggle and our youth are denied opportunities; all while Delhi hoards ₹1.8 lakh crore in cess collected from the States."

Congress's demand

Echoing similar sentiments on X, Priyank Kharge, IT/BT Minister, said, "Now that the government has finally adhered to our demands of rationalising and simplifying the GST, they are yet to figure out how they will compensate the losses to States like Karnataka."

He further said that while two-thirds of the total GST (64%) comes from the poor and middle classes, only 3% GST is collected from billionaires.

Housing schemes

Housing, Minorities Welfare and Wakf Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan pointed out that a request had been made to the Central government to provide GST exemption for housing schemes meant for the poor.

However, no action had been taken in this regard, he said.

BJP ridicules Congress

On the other hand, the BJP leaders, who called the new GST regime, which kicks in from September 22, "historic", also used the occasion to ridicule the Congress government in the State by accusing it of indulging in constantly and sharply increasing the taxes.

Veteran BJP leader and former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa took to social media to say the new system would particularly help the poor, middle class and farmers.

Former Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Ashwath Narayan alleged that there was a contrast in terms of the situation in Karnataka and the approach by the Congress government here. "While the Narendra Modi-led government has displayed its commitment to bettering the lives of people through a reduction in taxes, the Congress government in Karnataka is leaving no stone unturned in levying new taxes. In fact, the Congress government has collected more than ₹1.50 lakh crore in the form of tax since it came to power in the State in 2023," he said.

Instant coffee to get cheaper

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

The morning cuppa is going to be more affordable, thanks to the Union government's decision to reduce the GST on instant coffee to 5% from 18%.

The coffee community has unanimously welcomed the GST Council's decision and termed the move a "progressive step".

Rajat Agarwal, CEO, Barista Coffee, told *The Hindu*, "Considering we still, as an industry, are not eligible for GST input credit, this will reduce the sourcing cost. Further, more money with consumers will boost spending at large, which should benefit retail."

Rana George, MD of Bengaluru-based Kelachandra Coffee that owns close to 6,500 acres of coffee plantations in Chikkamagaluru and Wayanad, said the government's decision to reduce GST will significantly uplift the Indian coffee industry. "From farm to cup, a positive impact will be felt across the industry."

According to Mr. George, the reform will make coffee more affordable and accessible, thereby accelerating domestic consumption and opening new avenues for market growth. "It will create a fairer playing field for growers, processors, and retailers, ensuring benefits across the entire coffee value chain," she said, Mr. George also said, "Any relief in taxation would stimulate demand for coffee in the domestic market, encourage innovation and strengthen India's standing in the global speciality coffee markets."

The coffee community has unanimously welcomed the decision to reduce the GST on instant coffee to 5% from 18% and termed the move a 'progressive step' to directly benefit consumers and the industry alike. GETTY IMAGES

Harpreet Singh, partner, Indirect Tax - Deloitte India, pointed out that coffee-related products, such as roasted chicory, coffee substitutes, and coffee concentrates, have now been classified under the 5% GST slab.

"While this change is expected to benefit consumers through lower retail prices, it poses a short-term challenge for retailers holding inventory purchased at higher tax rates."

Srikanth Rao, director of Bayars Coffee, said, "Currently, instant coffee is taxed at 18%. With the new taxation bringing this down to 5%, consumers will be able to buy instant coffees and instant coffee liquids for a much affordable price."

Vikram Khurana, CEO of Kaapi Solutions, which focuses on coffee machines and barista training, said that for cafés, roasters, and retailers, this reduction eases financial pressures, enabling them to reinvest in quality, innovation, and customer experience.

GST reforms are growth boosters for MSMEs: Trade bodies

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Reforms enable MSMEs to focus on growth, innovation, and job creation, thereby contributing increasingly to State's economic growth, they say

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) would greatly benefit from the next-generation GST reforms announced by the Union government on Wednesday, owing to the reduced GST compliance burdens, faster refunds, and lower tax rates. The reforms enable MSMEs to focus on growth, innovation, and job creation, thereby contributing increasingly to State's economic growth, said the trade bodies on Thursday.

Under the new GST regime, which is scheduled to take effect on September 22, MSMEs will be able to enjoy a range of benefits, including simplified registration with automatic approval within 30 days, ease of compliance through reduced paperwork and streamlined filing, and faster refunds, among other benefits, they said.

M.G. Balakrishna, president, Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI), said that these decisive tax reforms would provide relief to consumers and also ensure fiscal responsibility and trade facilitation. "We believe these measures will accelerate economic momentum, encourage investments, and help reinvigorate Karnataka's industrial and commercial landscape,'' Mr. Balakrishna said. The GST structure would be rationalised and simplified into two-tier tax slabs of 5% and 18%, replacing the earlier complexity of four slabs.

According to Mr. Balakrishna, simplifying the tax slab structure streamlines pricing, inventory planning, and compliance, which would particularly benefit small businesses and small traders who operate on thin margins.

"By making GST more accessible, these businesses can now focus more on growth and innovation rather than tax complexities,'' he added.

B.R. Ganesh Rao, president, Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association (KASSIA), said the new reforms were particularly beneficial for MSMEs, which form the backbone of the Indian economy.

A lower GST burden would also boost entrepreneurship across sectors such as agriculture, healthcare, and education, Mr. Rao said, adding, "We also expect that issues concerning the policy decision on labour charges, timely refunds, QRMP [quarterly return monthly payment of taxes] and the rationalisation of tax on still-highly taxed essential goods such as batteries, etc., will be addressed in the next round of reforms."

The proposed GST revision is expected to benefit large, medium, and MSME sectors by increasing production capacities, improving competitiveness, and enhancing their overall growth prospects, as per K. Ravi, senior vice-president, Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC).

Trial court's order to police to conduct 're' or 'further' investigation is bizarre, says HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Trial court has freely used the words 're' or 'further' investigation, interchangeably, oblivious to their profound distinction, in criminal jurisprudence, said Justice M. Nagaprasanna

Terming as "bizarre" an order passed by a trial court in Bengaluru asking the police to conduct a "re" or further" investigation into a criminal case, the High Court of Karnataka has said that the "trial court has freely used the words 're' or 'further' investigation, interchangeably, oblivious to their profound distinction, in criminal jurisprudence."

"The order referring the matter for 're' or 'further' investigation under Section 156(3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) is, on the face of it, illegal. The concerned court appears to have blissfully ignored the basic tenet of law," said Justice M. Nagaprasanna while setting aside the order passed by a court of Metropolitan Magistrate.

Exclusive prerogative

The power to command a re-investigation, *de novo* investigation, or transfer of investigation to any other agency is the exclusive prerogative of the constitutional courts exercising jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, or it is an inherent jurisdiction of the constitutional court under Section 482 of the CrPC, the High Court made it clear. Even though the trial court have the power to order further investigation, the High Court, in the particular case, found fault with the order of trial court in using term "further" investigation as there was no material before the trial court to order further investigation under Section 173(8) of the CrPC when the police, based on earlier direction issued by the trial court for investigation, had not filed any report under Section 176(2) of the CrPC on investigation. The question of ordering further investigation arises only when the trial court is not satisfied with the investigation report, a charge sheet, or a closure report, etc are filed by the police, the High Court said while remitting the matter back to the trial court to pass necessary orders "strictly in consonance with law."

By mother and son

The High Court was hearing a petition filed by a mother and her younger son, who had questioned the "re or further" investigation order by the trial court based on a complaint lodged against them by her elder son, who had alleged that his mother and younger brother were using Aadhaar, mobile phone of his father for filing GST returns etc., in father's name even after his death.

Enforcement Directorate gets four days' custody extension of MLA Veerendra

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Special Court of Magistrate for criminal cases against former and present MPs and MLAs on Thursday granted four more days of custody of K.C. Veerendra, MLA for Chitradurga from Congress, after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials made a submission that they needed more time to probe the betting sites and apps run by the accused who was allegedly operating an illegal betting operation worth several thousand crores of rupees.

Mr. Veerendra was arrested by the ED on August 23 in Gangtok, Sikkim. As the custody of the accused ended on Thursday, the officials produced him before the court, seeking an extension of 15 more days of custody, stating that a detailed investigation into more betting apps and websites, suspected to be run by the accused, requires additional time.

K.C. Veerendra, MLA for Chitradurga from Congress, was arrested by the ED on August 23 in Gangtok, Sikkim FILE PHOTO

Objecting to the ED seeking extension of custody, advocates for the accused argued that he is cooperating with the investigation, and he was already in the ED custody for 11 days and should be remanded to judicial custody.

After the court granted four more days of custody to ED till September 8, Mr. Veerendra, through his advocates, demanded home food and that he should not be interrogated late at night.

The judge, while passing the order, said that the medical facility, hygienic food and other conditions which were laid down in the previous order remain the same.

Survey of Devadasis, sexual minorities on September 15

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has decided to conduct surveys of sexual minorities and Devadasi women from September 15.

Both surveys will be completed in 45 working days, according to a statement issued by the Department of Women & Child Development.

On Thursday, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah launched posters for the surveys, which will be held under the aegis of the Karnataka State Women's Development Corporation.

Transgender persons would conduct the survey of sexual minorities. It would be a mobile app-based survey held in all government-run taluk and district hospitals. The survey would be monitored by a district-level committee headed by the Deputy Commissioner and comprising representatives from organisations working for the welfare of sexual minorities.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

OBITUARY

ARAVIND RAMANAN
(Age 45)
SBU Head, International Academic Programmes, IIT Madras Research Foundation, Chennai
Son of Seshan Ramanan expired on 4th Sep, 2025.
Parents
Ramanan and Gomathy
Siblings
Anand and Preethi
Vidya and Satish
Manju and Anand
Nieces and Nephews
Vidarshana and Vidyut
Riya and Advaith
Family and Friends
Mobile : 9884080225

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby informed that my clients intend to purchase the property described in the schedule hereunder from its present owners **(1) MR. ABDUL NASIR KHAN** also known as A Nasir Khan, aged about 68 years, holding Aadhar No. 2577 1392 9579 and PAN: AFKPK0008D, son of late Abdul Rahim Khan **(2) MR. AZMATHULLA KHAN,** aged about 41 years, holding Aadhar No. 7772 2310 8325 and PAN: AIJPA0912G, son of Mr. Abdul Nasir Khan, both are residing at No. 283, Whitefield Main Road, Bengaluru – 560066.

All persons/ banks/ companies/ firms/ financial institutions having or claiming any right, title, estate or interest by way of inheritance, share, sale, mortgage, transfer, lease, tenancy, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, devise, bequest, exchange, pre-emption, possession or encumbrance or otherwise howsoever into or upon the Schedule Property herein below described, are called upon to intimate the same in writing to the undersigned by registered post at the below given address along with all the documents relating to such claim within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which any such claim of any party shall be deemed to have been waived for all legal practical purposes and shall not be entertained hereafter and I shall opine that the Schedule Property is free of any claims and my clients will be free to proceed with the proposed purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel being the southern portion of the of property bearing Sy. No.57, Presently bearing Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike **Khata Nos. 308/283/1 and 308/283/2** situated at Whitefield Village, Whitefield Main Road, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru - 560066 measuring on the East: 42.5 ft, West: 39.5 ft, North: 143.6 ft and South: 143.6 ft approximately measuring **5987.60 square feet** and bounded on the:
East by : Whitefield Main Road
West by : Suresh Mallani Property (Sy No. 57/1B1)
North by : Azmathulla Khan Property (308/283/1) & Nasir Khan Property (308/283/2)
South by : Natu Bai Property (Sy No. 57/1B1)

Vivek Anand Anthony Britto
Vir Anthony Britto
Advocates
"Daisville", 633, 5th Main, Indiranagar II Stage, Bengaluru-560038
Place: Bengaluru Date: 05.09.2025

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA NIYAMITHA
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Executive Engineer, K.R.Sagara Division, K.R. Sagara
TENDER NOTIFICATION NO - 08/2025-26 Dated : 03-09-2025
The Executive Engineer, K.R. Sagara Division, K.R.Sagara, Srirangapatna Taluk, Mandya Dist. on behalf of the Managing Director CNNL Mysore has invited tender through e-procurement https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in for 05 No. of works Amounting from Rs. 403.49 Lakhs to Rs. 201.67 Lakhs and on EMD As per KPPP Portal. Any further information Or Clarification for the above said work including last date, opening date, Pre-bid meeting date, EMD, etc., can be obtained from above mentioned office during the office hours & from the above said website.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
K.R. Sagara Division, K.R. Sagara.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(www.kpwd.gov.in)
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division, 2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore-01.
Telephone No. 080-22133370, Email ID: eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
E-Portal: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home**
Tender Notification No. 16/2025-26 Dated: 02.09.2025
Item-rate tenders, for the work in PWD, **Hoskote, Devanahalli, Nelamangala, North & Anekal** Sub Divisions under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per KPPP. Tender Notification are Published **for 62 work (Rs. 6.00 to 100.00 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. **EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal**.
Sl No. 01 to 61
1. Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM** on Dated: **10.09.2025**. 2. The opening of tenders through KPP portal on Dated: **11.09.2025** at **4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate.
Sl No. 62
1. Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM** on Dated: **18.09.2025.** 2. The opening of tenders through KPP portal on Dated: **19.09.2025** at **4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate. For more details contact this office.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
PWD Bangalore Division, Bangalore.
DIPR/CP/2631/ZEN/2025-26

Karnataka Forest Development Corporation Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of The Divisional Manager, Jinke Vana,
K.M. Road, Chikkamagaluru-577102
e-mail: dmkfdcckm901@gmail.com Ph.: 08262-295901
KFDC/CKM/A-3/OUTSOURCE/2025-26/Call-03/358 Date: 28.08.2025
e-Tender Notice
Tender is invited within 17.30 hrs. on 09.09.2025 from registered Human Resource Agencies for Service Charges to provide workers on outsource basis for various posts in Chikkamagaluru Division for a period of 2 years in 2025-26 and 2026-27. Those interested can obtain information from www.kppp.karn ataka.gov.in and submit the tenders and for further details the above address can be contacted during working hours.
Sd/- Divisional Manager, K.F.D.C.L., Chikkamagaluru.
DIPR/ckm/No.62/25-26/ksmca/852

Panel gives clean chit to Siddaramaiah's kin

The commission headed by retired judge P.N. Desai, which probed the case, said that the allotment of sites as compensation cannot be termed illegal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The commission headed by retired judge P.N. Desai has given a clean chit to the family of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the MUDA site "scam". The family had been accused of being a part in the illegal alternative site allotment "scam" that took place in Mysuru between 2020 and 2024.

The commission concluded that the allotment of sites as compensation cannot be termed as illegal. The report recommends legal action against officials responsible for the "scam".

Parvathi, wife of Mr. Siddaramaiah, had received 14

The Desai commission has recommended legal action against officials responsible for the 'scam'. FILE PHOTO

sites in the upscale Vijayanagar area as compensation to about 3.16 acres in survey number 464 in Kesare village that had been utilised by MUDA without acquisition. This had raised a political storm.

"In respect of utilisation of de-notified land in survey number 464 of Kesare village, though the land owner insisted on alternative un-developed land as compensation and although the resolution was also passed in 2017, the same has not been implemented. Subsequently, in 2022, sites were allotted in the ratio of 50:50 as per one of the modes of payment adopted in the same manner as allotted to others," the commission said.

MUDA CASE

This came after the Cabinet delved on it on Thursday and decided to accept the report.

The excerpts released to the media do not mention any names, including those from the family of Mr. Siddaramaiah or of the bureaucracy.

The commission further said, citing legality of possession, "The allotment of sites as compensation to the land owners whose lands were denotified but utilised by Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) pertaining to lands in survey number 115/22 and 115/42 of Kergalli village and the land in survey number 464 of Kesare village cannot be said to be illegal. Therefore, the methods followed by the authority for compensating in the form of sites in case of utilisation of denotified lands cannot be said unlawful since MUDA does not have any title and legal possession over the denotified land."

The commission observed that in the absence of any rule or law, or guidelines by the government to give sites in the form of compensation, allotment of alternative sites is one of the modes by MUDA.

"This has been done even in cases where land utilised without acquisition though rule is not applicable and the same cannot be faulted."

It found that 72 acres and 34 guntas have been used by MUDA without acquisition process, and due to delayed payment of compensation, in cases that extended three to four decades, the authority incurred huge monetary losses.

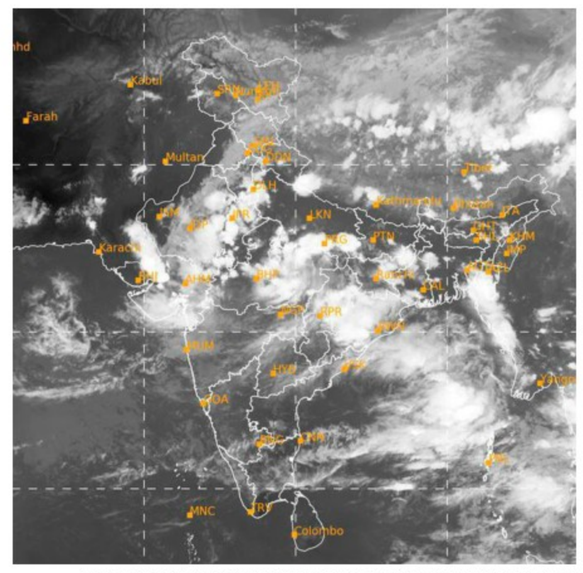
The commission found that alternative sites have been allotted without proper verification of physical existence of such sites.

Recommending cancellation of all illegal allotment of sites, the commission said that a thorough investigation is needed by a technical team.

"As many as 1,095 sites issued based on office memos (for internal communication). In some cases, OMs were issued but registered deeds not executed. Thirty to 40 sites were allotted illegally to one person, who has no right for compensation. The then commissioners defied directions of the government in allotment of sites, which need to be cancelled. Take action against erring officials," it said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.45 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Saurashtra & Kutch, Rajasthan, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Sub Himalayan West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra and Konkan & Goa

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	0.4	35.4	26.2	Kozhikode	75	31.0	23.2
Ahmedabad	26	33.5	23.0	Kurnool	—	32.6	24.1
Aizawl	46	32.0	21.9	Lucknow	—	33.4	27.5
Allahabad	0.5	31.6	25.4	Madurai	—	40.5	27.5
Bengaluru	33.2	27.6	19.8	Mangaluru	41.5	28.2	22.9
Bhopal	48	30.0	23.0	Mumbai	4	26.8	24.4
Bhubaneswar	0.2	33.5	24.5	Mysuru	—	28.0	20.7
Chandigarh	76	30.4	23.9	New Delhi	19	34.3	21.2
Chennai	—	35.2	27.5	Patna	—	34.0	28.1
Coimbatore	—	32.2	22.6	Port Blair	0.5	31.1	26.2
Dehradun	2	33.0	22.5	Puducherry	—	35.4	25.8
Gangtok	8	25.6	17.7	Pune	—	30.0	22.9
Goa	11	29.0	24.0	Raipur	—	29.4	24.0
Guwahati	—	34.0	26.2	Ranchi	26	28.1	22.0
Hubballi	—	27.0	21.0	Shillong	0.7	25.2	18.0
Hyderabad	4	30.3	22.2	Shimla	59	22.0	17.5
Imphal	—	31.9	21.5	Srinagar	33	26.4	11.2
Jaipur	37.8	32.3	22.6	Thiruvananthapuram	—	31.8	24.4
Kochi	47	29.0	22.6	Tiruchi	—	36.7	25.4
Kohima	—	25.2	19.4	Vijayawada	—	34.6	26.0
Kolkata	9.3	32.1	26.4	Visakhapatnam	4	31.8	26.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.14	.24	93	63	72	
Bengaluru	.9	.44	60	—	86	
Chennai	.7	.15	39	47	62	
Delhi	.—	.25	79	90	81	
Hyderabad	.21	.24	22	127	95	
Kolkata	.4	163	21	36	32	
Lucknow	.11	.30	49	28	51	
Mumbai	.—	.48	43	43	73	
Pune	.—	.26	46	25	58	
Visakhapatnam	.13	.55	29	108	138	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 129 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 16

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

'Ensure transparent probe into Dharmasthala deaths'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Women's groups in the State have written an open letter to Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi, demanding a transparent investigation into the alleged unnatural deaths in Dharmasthala and justice for the victims.

The letter, signed by several organisations and individuals, seeks Ms. Gandhi's support in ensuring the focus of the SIT inquiry remains "steadfastly on investigating the perplexing pattern of unnatural deaths and sexual assault cases in the region".

"Justice must be served to the victims; perpetrators must be booked and authorities who failed their duty be held accountable," reads the letter.

Campaign launched

Around 40 feminist thinkers, academicians, writers, doctors, media professionals, and 10 women's rights organisations have endorsed the appeal sent under the recently launched '*Kondavaru Yaaru*? Who killed the women in the Dharmasthala?' campaign.

The signatories include Naveddu Nilladiddare, Women's Voice - Karnataka, Karnataka Rajya Mahila Dourjanya Virodhi Okkoota, All India Progressive Women's Forum (AIPWA) - Karnataka, Garment and Textile Workers Union (GATWU) - Karnataka, and National Federation of Indian Women (NFIW), among others.

They note that the matter has become the subject of salacious media coverage and political grandstanding, with even Ministers from the Congress adding to the furore.

Seers meet Amit Shah seeking NIA probe in Dharmasthala case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A delegation of Hindu seers from the State, under the banner of 'Sanatan Sant Niyog', called on Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi on Thursday. The seers demanded that the case of alleged mass burials in the temple town of Dharmasthala be handed over to the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

The delegation was led by Vachanananda Swamy of Veershaiva Lingayat Panchamasali Peeth in Harihara. The seers submitted a memorandum to Mr. Shah, claiming that Dharmasthala was being "targeted" in the same manner as other Hindu temples, such as Tirupati and Sabarimala.

The seers said they had no objection to the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe but stressed that the "conspiracy" against the Dharmasthala temple must be exposed.

According to sources, Mr. Shah told the delegation that the NDA government has been closely monitoring the case and that the matter is likely to be discussed in the Union Cabinet meeting.

The Opposition BJP has been demanding an NIA probe into the Dharmasthala case. On Wednesday, JD(S) leader and Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy met Mr. Shah.

Amid mounting pressure for an NIA probe in the case, Home Minister G. Parameshwara on Thursday said the State government has already constituted an SIT and that the Centre has to justify any move to take over the investigation.

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

No. EL/1248/W/1186 Date: 02/09/2025

E-TENDER NOTICE

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Maintenance, BLW, Varanasi acting or and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tenders for the following work. **S.No.** 1; **Tender No.** EL/1248/W/1186; **Name of Work:** Special Works contract for maintenance of Electrical Assets under Electrical Maintenance Department in BLW for One Year; **Approximate Cost:** Rs. 74,96,973.34/-; **Completion Period:** 12 Months; **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1,49,900/-; **Tender opening date and time:** 19/09/2025 at 15:00 hrs. For details and to participate e-tender please visit Indian railways website **www.ireps.gov.in**.

PRO/BLW/E-03 District Electrical Engineer/M.

/blwvaranasi Website: blw.indianrailways.gov.in

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-(IREPS) Tender Notice No. 26 UBL 2025-26 Dated: 29-08-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Sl.	Name of Work	Approx. Value
1	**Hubballi Division :-** Supply of Ballast at Kotturu (KTY) Depot in Senior Divisional Engineer/East/Hubballi Jurisdiction	Rs. 2,76,63,162/-
2	**Hubballi Division:Ginigera:-** Proposed extension of existing Bridge No. 76 for additional loop line work in Gadag-Hosapete (GDG - HPT) Section	Rs. 1,09,65,256/-
3	**Hubballi Division-** Provision of IRS type platform shelter for a length of 175 meters at Platform No. 01 at Hubballi station	Rs. 98,09,864/-

Last date for submission of bids:**Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 26-09-2025**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Engineer /Co-Ordination Hubballi

PUB/429/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, KANAKAPURA

Phone : 080-27522428. **e-mail:** ka.kanakapuracmc@gmail.com **Website:** http://www.kanakapuracity.mrc.gov.in

No.CMC/KKP/TS/CR/TEN-09/2025-26 Date: 29.08.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The following annual maintenance tenders are invited from registered agencies/contractors for the annual maintenance of the following personnel under the Municipal Grant of Kanakapura Municipality for the year 2025-26, subject to the terms and conditions of the relevant tender document. **1)** DMA/2025-26/SE6003 Estimated Amount **Rs.: 21.17 Lakhs. 2)** DMA/2025-26/SE6027 Estimated Amount **Rs. 16.81 Lakhs. 3)** DMA/2025-26/SE6028 Estimated Amount **Rs. 48.25 Lakhs. 4)** DMA/2025-26/SE5696/CALL-2 Estimated Amount **Rs.10.80 Lakhs.** The details of the tender date and other information are as follows. The last date for submission of tender is **10.09.2025 till 17:30 PM**, the date of opening of technical bid is **12.09.2025 at 11:00 AM**, the date of opening of financial bid is **17.09.2025 at 11:00 AM**, any corrigendum or extension of time will be published in e-procurement portal only, not be published in any newspaper. Further details can be obtained from the office technical branch and **1) DMA/2025-26/SE6030** Estimated Amount **Rs. 71.41 Lakhs** The last date for submission of tender is **12.09.2025 till 17:30 PM**, the date of opening of technical bid is **15.09.2025 at 11:00 AM**, the date of opening of financial bid is **18.09.2025 at 11:00 AM**, any corrigendum or extension of time will be published in e-procurement portal only, not be published in any newspaper. Further details can be obtained from the office technical branch.

Sd/- Municipal Commissioner CMC, Kanakapura

DIPR/BSD/317/SA/2025-26

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560 020

No. BDA/EE/ID/TEN/82/2025-26 Date: 04.09.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

(Through GoK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

Tender is invited for Construction of Additional Floor above the Existing 3rd Floor of Block-D Building (Canara Bank), BDA Head Office, Bengaluru. Project work invited by Bangalore Development Authority (Indent Number: BDA/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT159).

Tender Process Schedule: (1) Last date and time for tender queries: **08.09.2025, 12.30 hrs. (2)** Last date and time for receipt of tenders: **18.09.2025, 17.00 hrs. (3)** Date and time of opening of Technical bid: **20.09.2025, 17.00 hrs. (4)** Date and time of opening of Financial bid: **24.09.2025, 11.00 hrs.**

Interested contractors can view further details on **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and for more details it is requested to contact the Infrastructure Division of BDA during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (I/c), Infrastructure Division, BDA, Bengaluru

REMOTE SENSING APPLICATIONS CENTRE, U.P.

Sector-G, Jankipuram, Kursi Road, Lucknow- 226021 (U.P.)
Ph.: 0522-2730451, E-mail: director.rsac-up@gov.in

RSAC:Pur/486521/2025/04 **E-TENDER NOITCE** Dated: 04.09.2025

Online E-tender are invited for the Empanelment of Private Companies/ organisations for the Joint/ Collaborative/ other Mode of Project Work. The tenderers are required to submit their **On line** Technical Bid.

S. No	Particulars of items	Quantity	Cost of Tender Document with GST @ 18% in Rs.
01	Request For Proposal for Empanelment of Private Companies/ organisations for the Joint/ Collaborative/ other Mode of Project Work in the Field of Remote Sensing/ GIS / Lidar/ Creation of 3D Digital Twin/ Geo-Analytics Platform/ AI-ML Tools for Image Classification/ Bathymetry/ GPR	01 Nos.	5900/-

Detailed description and Tender Documents available at e-tender website https://www.etender.up.nic.in. The tender will be accepted **on-line** only on E-Tender Portal. **Tender ID: 2025_RSAC_1071249_1**

Publish Date	04-Sep-2025, 12:10 PM	Bid Opening Date	26-Sep-2025, 05:00 PM
Document Download / Sale Start Date	05-Sep-2025, 10:00 AM	Document Download / Sale End Date	25-Sep-2025, 05:00 PM
Clarification Start Date	07-Sep-2025, 10:00 AM	Clarification End Date	24-Sep-2025, 05:00 PM
Bid Submission Start Date	07-Sep-2025, 11:00 AM	Bid Submission End Date	25-Sep-2025, 05:00 PM

The competent authority of Remote Sensing Applications Centre, U.P., Lucknow reserves the right to reject/cancel any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Director

THE SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LIMITED

(A Government Company)
Regd. Office: KOTHAGUDEM - 507101, Telangana.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) invites Expression of Interest (EoI) from interested parties for the Establishment of the proposed **Singareni Super-Specialty Hospital in Hyderabad.**

Interested parties are requested to submit EoIs via email on or before **12.09.2025 to: so_cmd@scclmines.com, gmcdn@rediffmail.com** with the following information:

- Location and Land Details
- Building Plan and Structural layout
- The details of Medical Infrastructure and Equipment:
- The Existing Manpower availability
- Valid Hospital Permissions and Certifications: like fire NOC etc.
- Operational and recurring expenses
- **Hospital specifications:** The facility should have bed capacity ranging 150 to 200 beds and must offer both Multi specialty and Super Specialty services with all necessary infrastructure
- The Hospital should be centrally located in Hyderabad
- The proposal for **lease or sale** of Hospital premises

Sd/-
Chairman & Managing Director, SCCL

PR/2025/ADVT/MED/85 DIPR R.O.No.: 590-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26

ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.

ನಂ:ದಾಮಪಾ:ಕಾಅ1.ಇ.ಟೆಂಡರ್:27:2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:03–09–2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

2025–26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ನಿಧಿ.–03 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು, ಒಟ್ಟು 03 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಸಿಂಗಲ್/ಡಬಲ್ ಕವರ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ಏಜನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ www.davanagerecity.mrc.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಸಹಾಯಕ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: +91–8046010000 +91–8068948777 ರಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ, ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಗಮನಿಸುವುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂ 01 ರಿಂದ 03 ರ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ:– ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾದ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 08–09–2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿ:–16–09–2025 ಸಮಯ 16.00

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16–09–2025 ಸಮಯ : 17.00

ಟೆಂಡರ್/ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18–09–2025 ಸಮಯ : 11.00

ವಾಸಾಇ/ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ/318/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ

Govt. of Karnataka

Shivamogga Zilla Panchayath

Shivamogga District Shivamogga

(Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme) Address: PO BOX NUMBER:127, Kuvempu Road Shivamogga

Phone: 08182-267231 E-mail: ceo.shimoga@gmail.com

No. ZPS/MGNREGA/e-Tender/2025-26 Date:01-09-2025

Tender Notification

Sub: Tender Notification for the Selection of Man Power Agency for providing out sourcing services in Shivamogga districts (Through e-procurement only)

On behalf of The Chief Executive Officer, Shivamogga Zilla Panchayath, Shivamogga District Rural Development & Panchayath Raj Department (RD&PR), Government of Karnataka, the undersigned is inviting tenders through e-procurement platform in two cover system (Technical & Financial) from the eligible Man Power agencies for providing out sourcing services in Shivamogga districts for the period of 3 Years. Details obtained from the website of Karnataka Public procurement portal (KPPP), e-procurement Department, Government of Karnataka. The last date for submission of Tenders at https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/is Date:03-10-2025 before 4.00 pm.

Schedule of Tender Process:

Sl.No. 1. Start date for Uploading the Tender document in e-portal Date:-02-09-2025 from 11.00am Hr Onwards **2.** Last Date for receiving queries Date:-06-09-2025 Before 3 PM **3**. Last Date for submission of proposals in e-portal: Date:-03-10-2025 upto 16:00Hr **4**. Opening of Technical Bids in the e-portal: Date:- 08-10-2025 @ 11.00 Hr **5**. Opening of Financial Bids of Technically qualified Bidders: Date:- 18-10-2025 @ 11.00 Hr If Possible

Sd/- Chief Executive Officer,
Zilla Panchayath, Shivamogga District

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/ 04/09/861

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

ENGINEERING WING

Office of the Chief Engineer, Arogya Soudha, 3rd Floor, Leprosy Hospital Premises, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bengaluru-560 023
Telephone No.: 080-29557023 E-mail:**cekhsdrp@gmail.com**

No: HFWD/EW/CE/TA-1/AE-3/Furniture Works-CIMS/TND/2025-26/1888 Date: 04.09.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Chief Engineer, H&FWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru invites tender from eligible contractors registered in KPWD in two Cover tender document system through Karnataka Public Procurement portal for the following works.

Description of work: Providing & Supplying Furnitures to Chikkamagaluru Institute of Medical Sciences at Chikkamagaluru. Approx. value of work: **Rs. 797.00 lakhs.** EMD: **Rs. 11.96 lakhs.** Stipulated period for completion (including monsoon): **5 months.**

Calendar of Events: (1) Last date for receipt of tenders: **09.10.2025 up to 16.00 hrs. (2)** Date of opening of tenders (Technical Bids): **10.10.2025 at 16.00 hrs.**

The tender details can be downloaded from the KPP Platform. Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Earnest Money Deposit and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested eligible contractors shall register on the KPP Platform to participate in this tender.

NOTE: (1) All the rights are reserved by the undersigned for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids / individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. **(2)** Henceforth, any changes in the schedule/contents will not be published through newspapers and further changes will be updated on KPP Portal only.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, H&FWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru

KARNATAKA STATE MEDICAL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED

No.1, Dr. Siddaiah Puranik Road, KHB Colony, Magadi Road, Bangalore-560079.
Phone: +91-80-29619801, Email: md.ksmscl@gmail.com

No:KSMSCL/DRUGS/TND/PRGM/NVBDCP/DRUGS & CHEMICALS/17/2025-26 Dt: 04.09.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref: 1. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/TND/PRGM/NVBDCP/DRUGS&CHEMICALS/17/2025-26, Dated: 04.09.2025 (IND-0291).

2. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/TND/2025-26 AI/PACKAGE-18 AND 21/9 DRUGS/46/2025-26, Dated: 04.09.2025 (IND-0292).

3. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/TND/2025-26 AI/PACKAGE- 24/11 DRUGS/50/2025-26, Dated: 04.09.2025 (IND-0296).

4. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/TND/2025-26 AI/PACKAGE- 25/20 DRUGS/51/2025-26, Dated: 04.09.2025 (IND-0297).

Nationwide Tender is invited through **e-Tendering system** under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tender:

1. Tender for the supply of Drugs, Diagnostics and Insecticides for NVBDCP program under NHM-NVBDCP Budget FY 2025-26 (IND-0291).

2. Tender for the supply of 9 drugs under Package-18: Medicines for Neonatal Care category and Package-21: Antimigraine medicines, Diuretics, Muscle Relaxants (Peripherally Acting) and Cholinesterase Inhibitors, Immunosuppressive Medicines & Enzymes category for various Health Institutions across Karnataka under Annual Indent 2025-26 (IND-0292)

3. Tender for the supply of 11 drugs under Package-24:Disinfectants and antiseptics category for various Health Institutions across Karnataka under Annual Indent 2025-26 (IND-0296).

4. Tender for the supply of 20 drugs under Package-25: Dermatological medicines (Topical) category for various Health Institutions across Karnataka under Annual Indent 2025-26 (IND-0297).

Details regarding EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information are available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from **04.09.2025.** The eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders under e-procurement platform for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.

Sd/-
Managing Director
KSMSCL, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/2655/CCL/2025-26

Cuts in time

GST rate cuts will boost consumption at a time when exports face challenges

The sweeping changes to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, authorised by the GST Council on Wednesday, have come as a shot in the arm for the mood of the people, and, potentially, for the economy overall. Few things spur optimism and demand as effectively as tax cuts. The Centre did well to push the GST Council towards these reforms, which rose to the occasion and cleared them quickly. Criticism that these reforms have come too late is neither here nor there. The GST Council is a federal body, and any of the States could have suggested these rate cuts earlier but did not. The appropriateness of the Prime Minister's announcement of the reforms in his Independence Day speech, coming as it did before either the relevant Group of Ministers or the GST Council met, can be questioned. But here, too, the fact that the Council announced its decisions on the first day of what was supposed to be a two-day meeting shows that the States were on board. The minutes of the 56th meeting will reveal each member's stated position. The rate changes span nearly every sector, and are, overwhelmingly, in the downward direction. Very few items, such as high-end motorcycles and higher priced apparel, are set to become more expensive. Tempting as it was to pack the 40% bracket with more items, the GST Council did well to keep it narrow. Overall, these rate cuts, coupled with the income-tax rate cuts announced in Budget 2025, should serve as a much-needed boost to consumption at a time when other engines of growth such as exports and private investment are sputtering.

The government has maintained that the revenue implication of these GST rate cuts would be around ₹48,000 crore a year, based on 2023-24 consumption data. Given the scope of the cuts, this seems like an underestimation. However, only time will tell what the actual number will be. It is to be noted that the GST Council decided to do away with the compensation cess, despite Opposition-governed States calling for one to protect their revenues. Such a cess would have diluted the rate rationalisation and simplification efforts and is best eschewed. Instead, the States are now going to have to look to their own revenue sources, as well as the 16th Finance Commission, to offset the losses they face. The new GST 2.0 still has some anomalies, and is still more complicated than it needs to be, but the removal of duty inversions and the easing of paperwork are a huge improvement. The government should now revive the National Anti-Profiteering Authority, at least temporarily, to ensure that the rate cuts are passed on once they kick in on September 22.

Process as punishment

Repeated bail denial, as in Umar Khalid's case, enables state overreach

The Delhi High Court's decision to deny bail, once again, to former university scholar Umar Khalid and others in the "larger conspiracy" case relating to the 2020 Delhi riots is a grim affirmation of how special security laws, combined with a deferential judiciary, can transform pre-trial detention into extended punishment. The court's reasoning, which held that Khalid's five-year-long custody is not in itself sufficient grounds for bail, rests on the stringent provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). Section 43D(5) of the UAPA bars bail if there are "reasonable grounds" to believe the accusations are prima facie true, a clause that judicial interpretation since the Supreme Court's Watali (2019) judgment has hardened into a near-insurmountable barrier. By forbidding a detailed examination of evidence at the bail stage, the law effectively forces courts to accept the prosecution's narrative. If the charge sheet alleges a conspiracy and attaches voluminous material, the accused is jailed, sometimes indefinitely. With provisions that extend the investigation period to 180 days and prohibit anticipatory bail, the UAPA creates a legal framework where the process itself becomes the penalty – as in Khalid's case. Courts, however, possess the authority to counter such procedural constraints. Long incarceration without trial has been recognised in rulings as grounds for relief, even in serious cases.

A different Bench of the High Court, while granting bail in 2021 to three other activists in the same case, had ruled that the state, in its anxiety to suppress dissent, had "blurred the line between the constitutionally guaranteed right to protest and terrorist activity". It astutely observed that peaceful mobilisation, however inconvenient to the government, could not be casually categorised as a "terrorist act". The current Bench appears to have ignored this crucial distinction. In treating protest-related speech and organisational planning to blockade roads as sufficient to establish a *prima facie* case of terrorism, it punishes dissent, precisely where constitutional liberty should have the stronger claim. This approach echoes the dangers embedded in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita's Section 152, whose vague vocabulary invites the same broad strokes that have been weaponised under the UAPA. Incomprehensibly, the Bench even justified the trial's slow pace, calling it "natural". The price for Khalid is already severe, with his name fixed in the public imagination as a conspirator. When the judiciary defers to the state's anxieties and allows the line between protest and terrorism to be erased, the distinction between accusation and guilt collapses. If prolonged delay is permitted to be a substitute for conviction, the constitutional guarantees of liberty and free expression under Articles 19 and 21 are hollowed out for all citizens.

Trump's tariff war as opportunity for the Global South

Salman Khurshid

is India's former External Affairs Minister

Pushparaj Deshpande

is Director, Samruddha Bharat Foundation

Although much has been made of what the United States and U.S. President Trump are doing, it is critical for India (and the world) to dissect the *raison d'être* behind the disruptions being imposed on them today. The economic, geopolitical and technological polycrisis necessitates a strategic recalibration, to insulate ourselves and to forge a more equitable world order.

Mr. Trump's economic warfare is motivated by three imperatives. First, he is consciously pandering to America's silent majority (and not just the 'Make America Great Again' Republicans) which feels shortchanged by globalisation's nucleus, namely capital accumulation, cheap labour, the environment's colonisation and trickle-down economics. This neo-liberal status quo has caused an unprecedented concentration of wealth and power on the one hand, and mushrooming inequalities on the other. Instead of comprehensively restructuring economic paradigms and thereby redressing legitimate grievances (which the Global South also feels acutely), he has unleashed xenophobic, racist and centrifugal politics, veneered by economic populism.

Trump's motivations

Domestic politics partly explains why Mr. Trump hawkishly vilifies the liberal international order as antithetical to American interests. This has translated into sanctions on 30-plus nations and tariffs on nearly 70 (impairing the free movement of goods and ideas), the forging of trade blocs, the undermining of transnational organisations and treaties , circumscribing of foreign aid to vulnerable nations (reversing solidarity commitments dating back to the First World War) and a crackdown against immigration (impeding the free movement of labour). This 360° attack on the norms and institutions of the liberal world order is just a fig-leaf for the ruthless pursuit of sovereign self-interest.

Second, sidestepping that the tariffs are a camouflaged super-tax on American companies and consumers (who will collectively absorb 70% of tariffs costs, according to Goldman Sachs), they are designed to bolster America's economic strength by extorting nations and companies. Even though America accounts for 26% of global GDP, China, at 17%, is fast catching up (and nearly on a par with the other G-7 members, which collectively account for 20%-22% of global GDP). This is why America continues to heavily subsidise agricultural production, deepens unilateralist industrial, technology and climate change policies, bludgeons nations into making investment commitments, and strives to retrench the dollar's privileged position (including circumscribing global-currency alternatives). This coercive statecraft has historical precedent, with protectionism and punitive mercantile capitalism being leveraged to bolster economies and force sovereign nations to open markets. This hypocrisy continues and is exemplified in America pressuring India to eschew protections for the agricultural sector, while it imposes tariff walls of 350% on tobacco products, 200% on dairy products and 120% on fruits. India's textiles, jewellery and gems, auto components and metals sectors are being severely impacted by these discriminatory tariffs. Clearly, old (imperial) habits die hard.

> India must move swiftly, using the unfolding polycrisis to reshape the world's geo-economic and political architecture

Third, even though tariff-weaponisation is singularly Trumpian, reversing America's perceived deindustrialisation and checking China's ascendance has bipartisan support. The escalating tariffs against India were purportedly designed to pressurise Russia to end the war with Ukraine (one of Mr. Trump's key election promises). However, despite the U.S.-Russia meeting on Ukraine, penalties against India continue (perhaps as leverage against nations pursuing multipolarity). Irrespective of when Mr. Trump can claim "peace in our time", his attention will inevitably shift to what America sees as its biggest challenge to a unipolar world – the China theatre. It is no coincidence that the tariffs also included provisions to check China's strategic influence while furthering American national security goals (as an investigation by *The Washington Post* on the U.S.'s "supplemental negotiation objectives" action memo reveals).

What New Delhi must do

These upheavals hold multiple lessons for India. Its response to the epistemic polycrisis the world faces today has to address both the substantive and the symbolic. For example, the unstated assumption that Washington sees India as a democratic counterweight to China needs to be seriously re-examined. India needs to ask the degree of geopolitical convergence it has with America given that the U.S. has renewed its vows to Pakistan (possibly to retain an inside track with China), is trying to re-hyphenate India and Pakistan, may skip the Quad Summit that India will host later this year, and inhibits American companies manufacturing in India and having advanced technology collaboration. Mr. Trump's actions have disrupted the India-U.S. partnership built painstakingly over 25 years, compelling the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government to make major concessions to China to avoid a two-front problem (without any reciprocal concessions). America needs to accept that India's northern borders are live fault-lines. While India must defend its territorial integrity vigorously, for now, India must manage competition, avoid conflicts and substantively strengthen itself.

Second, the government must confront Mr. Trump more aggressively in the pursuit of India's national interest. It is no coincidence that America has not levied tariffs on China, even though their bilateral trade deficit is $295 billion, while China imports oil from Russia and trades with Iran. This is partly because of Chinese restrictions on rare metals and magnets, which are critical to the U.S.'s defence and technology sectors. In contrast, the BJP government complied twice to American diktats, stopping oil imports from Iran and Venezuela and temporarily waiving the 11% import duty on cotton. The BJP would do well to learn that bullies only respond to strength. Third, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's foreign policy adventurism (personalised diplomacy, manufactured diaspora events, and click-bait acronyms) have not furthered India's strategic interests and must be immediately re-calibrated. For example, the government and right-wing diaspora outfits tried in vain to ingratiate themselves to Republican legislators and right-wing influencers/lobbyists close to Mr. Trump. Likewise, BJP Ministers misread American support by myopically conflating India's economic size with strategic utility. And, equally problematically, the BJP partially eschewed non-alignment (now globally feted as multi-alignment) and sacrificed India's material interests for a symbolic seat at the high table. Sadly, the Modi-doctrine has bound China and Pakistan in an "iron-clad alliance" (creating a unified threat to India's northern flank), isolated India in its neighbourhood, put India's wealth-creators in the cross hairs of punishing tariffs, and subject American-Indians to virulent racism.

India must capitalise on disruptions

India must leverage this polycrisis to reshape the world's geo-economic and political architecture. This window could narrow after America's mid-term elections next year. Therefore, India must champion multipolarity as an alternative to both unipolarity and bipolarity. India can also capitalise on this opportunity to forge a New Economic Deal that works equitably for all nations. After all, neoliberal globalisation has not worked well, especially for those in the Global South. This has been compounded by weak and imbalanced multilateral institutions, an extreme concentration of global power and wealth in the hands of a few in the Global North, the forced reduction of taxes and high levels of sovereign debt (leading to reduced government revenues, a scaling back of state-driven functions, and limited fiscal space to invest in national developmental goals).

But to do this effectively, the government must urgently redress India's structural problems. Manufacturing is at a four-decade low, unemployment is unacceptably high, private investment is stagnant, scientific research is abysmal and public sector units are still not being re-deployed strategically (such as China's State-Owned Enterprise). The government must make concerted efforts to restore trust in economic stakeholders, spearhead policies that ensure equitable growth (without which India will not appear as an attractive market to investors), and a bold new vision.

This necessitates eschewing transactional instrumentalities, and investing time in forging relationships with multiple stakeholders within and outside government. It also means making constructive efforts to forge a bipartisan consensus both domestically and with the Global South. To expedite the realisation of India's manifest destiny, the government must shed its partisan blinkers, reach across the aisle, and lead a unified approach in the national interest.

GST 2.0 is a landmark in India's tax journey

Chandrajit Banerjee

is Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

The 56th meeting of the GST Council on September 3, 2025 will be remembered as a defining milestone in India's tax history. These reforms go far beyond tax rates and structures. They represent a decisive shift towards a simpler, fairer, and growth-oriented system that is aligned with the aspirations of a Viksit Bharat 2047.

A long-standing demand of both industry and consumers has been simplification of the multiple GST slabs (5%, 12%, 18%, and 28%). The move to a transparent "Simple Tax", with just two rates, 18% as the Standard Rate and 5% as the Merit Rate, along with a 40% de-merit rate for a select few goods – is transformational.

This bold step reduces compliance burdens, enhances predictability for business, and makes the tax regime more citizen-friendly. It clearly signals the government's commitment to align Indian taxation with the best global practices.

Relief for a range of income groups

The reforms directly touch the daily lives in Indian households. Common items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, a bicycle, and kitchenware are now in the 5% bracket. Essentials such as Ultra-High Temperature milk, *paneer*, *chapati* and *paratha* are exempt. Packaged foods, noodles, chocolates and beverages have seen notable rate cuts, boosting consumption and offering relief to families across income groups.

Equally impactful is the exemption of GST on all life and health insurance products. This single decision will make insurance more affordable, particularly for senior citizens and low-income families, raising India's insurance penetration and strengthening social security.

Health care has been given a powerful boost through exemptions and reductions on essential drugs, devices, and treatments for cancer, rare diseases and chronic conditions. These measures ensure wider access to modern medicine and diagnostics, easing financial burdens on households. Farmers stand to benefit from major reductions. Tractors, farm machinery, and other vital implements now attract only 5% GST, while fertilizers and inputs such as sulphuric acid and ammonia have moved from 18% to 5%. By correcting earlier inverted duty structures, these reforms lower cultivation costs and improve farm productivity.

> The simplification of the multiple GST slabs is an example of people's reform

Labour-intensive sectors such as handicrafts, marble, granite, and leather goods now enjoy reduced GST rates, which will stimulate demand and secure employment. By making traditional industries more competitive, the reforms safeguard livelihoods while opening new growth avenues.

Changes in critical sectors

A particularly significant achievement is the correction of inverted duty structures in critical sectors. For instance, the GST reduction on man-made fibre and yarn to 5% eliminates a distortion that had long plagued the textile value chain. This move is expected to boost competitiveness, exports, job creation, and domestic value addition across textiles and apparel.

Cement, a cornerstone for housing and infrastructure, has shifted from 28% to 18% GST. This will drive multiplier effects across construction and infrastructure, while cuts for renewable energy devices and automotive components will accelerate India's green growth journey.

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has consistently called for such corrections and is gratified to see so many recommendations accepted that range from a rationalisation of auto parts to relief for hospitality and wellness services. These changes will harmonise markets and reduce unnecessary disputes.

The announcement that the Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) will become operational by year-end marks a historic institutional advance. For tax-payers, this means faster dispute resolution, more consistent rulings, and enhanced trust in the system. Other process reforms, including provisional refunds for inverted duty structures, risk-based compliance checks, and harmonisation of valuation rules, further reduce uncertainty and compliance costs. Together, these measures reinforce India's position as one of the world's easiest large economies for doing business.

Over the past eight months, the CII has strongly advocated simplification into a two-rate structure, a correction of anomalies, a reduction of rates on essentials, support for labour-intensive sectors, and faster operationalisation of GSTAT. It is heartening that so many of these have now been adopted.

The Council's decisions reflect both responsiveness and a deep sense of partnership with industry. This is a proud moment for all stakeholders who have constructively engaged in shaping these reforms.

Almost immediate benefits

Equally noteworthy is the careful phasing of reforms from September 22, 2025. This sequencing ensures revenue stability while allowing industry and consumers to benefit immediately from lower rates. The approach safeguards fiscal health while stimulating demand and investment.

These announcements are more than technical adjustments. They are a people's reform. They touch citizens, farmers, workers, businesses and entrepreneurs alike. By simplifying the structure, lowering rates on essentials, correcting distortions, and strengthening institutions, GST 2.0 has created a stronger foundation for India's growth journey.

The CII stands ready to support effective implementation, build awareness, and ensure that the benefits of these reforms flow seamlessly to every citizen.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GST, a new tax slab

The government's decision to rationalise and revamp the present Goods and Services Tax (GST) structure, although belated, is commendable, if the goal is to ensure that the interests of the common man are upheld (Front page, September 4). Waiving GST on individual life and health insurance policies is praiseworthy. But it is unfortunate that group medical policies were not given such a concession. Only time will prove whether the new GST policy benefits the poor and the middle class or remains as yet another gimmick by the central government ahead of crucial Assembly elections in several States.

Kshirasagara Balaji Rao,
Hyderabad

Even before the GST Council meets and comes to a decision on GST reforms, the Prime Minister announced in August that GST rates would be rationalised, as a Deepavali gift. The GST Council appears to have meekly endorsed the reforms without any debate or discussion. This does not seem to be the procedure to take when it comes to making key decisions.

V. Padmanabhan,
Bengaluru

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Should commercial speech on digital platforms be regulated?

Apar Gupta
is advocate and founder-director of the Internet Freedom Foundation

Jay Vinayak Ojha
is senior resident fellow at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

PARLEY

On August 25, the Supreme Court urged the Union government to frame guidelines for regulating social media, noting that influencers often commercialise free speech in ways that may offend the sentiments of vulnerable groups. A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi directed that these regulations be drafted in consultation with the National Broadcasters and Digital Association. The order stemmed from an intervention application filed by a non-profit representing persons with Spinal Muscular Atrophy, which alleged that comedians Samay Raina, Vipul Goyal, Balraj Paramjeet Singh Ghai, Sonali Thakkar, and Nishant Jagdish Tanwar had made derogatory remarks about those living with the disorder. Should commercial speech on digital platforms be regulated? Apar Gupta and Jay Vinayak Ojha discuss this question in a conversation moderated by **Aaratrika Bhaumik**. Excerpts:

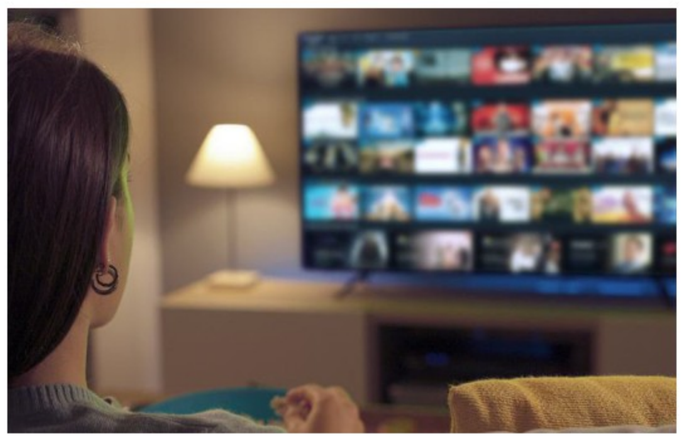
Is there a regulatory vacuum that necessitates new guidelines?

Apar Gupta: No. The circumstances underlying the present order demonstrate that legal mechanisms for prosecution already exist. The very basis on which the Supreme Court entertained this matter was the FIRs lodged by the State governments of Maharashtra and Assam under various provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000, in connection with a stand-up skit uploaded on YouTube titled *India's Got Latent*. The IT Act further establishes a censorship framework that permits the removal of online content pursuant to court orders or executive directions. In practice, this mechanism is frequently invoked in secrecy and without adequate adherence to principles of natural justice. Thus, the court's apprehension... appears misplaced.

Jay Vinayak Ojha: I believe one ought not to attempt to "fix what is not broken". While the wisdom of individual provisions may certainly be debated, their existence cannot be denied. In my view, Mr. Raina's jokes were in exceptionally poor taste. Yet, to construct an elaborate framework of legislation, subordinate rules, or guidelines on the basis of a single incident would be an overreaction.

Is protecting individual dignity a constitutionally permissible ground to restrict speech?

JVO: The reasonable restrictions on free speech under Article 19(2) of the Constitution are exhaustive, encompassing security of the state, public order, decency, morality, and other grounds. They do not, however, include the protection of individual dignity. It is a slippery slope to suggest that speech may be curtailed on the basis of a somewhat amorphous concept such as dignity, which lacks a precise legal definition. That said, concerns regarding the participation of differently abled persons in public life and the preservation of their dignity are legitimate. Moreover, the court possesses inherent jurisdiction under the Constitution to do "complete justice", a mandate that empowers it to account for the wider social ramifications of online speech.



Safeguards must begin with strong review mechanisms. GETTY IMAGES

AG: Any limitation on the freedom of speech and expression must be imposed through a duly enacted law, and such restrictions must also withstand the test of proportionality. In *Subramanian Swamy v. Union of India* (2016), the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of criminal defamation, recognising individual dignity as one of the bases for sustaining the remedy. However, to treat dignity as an independent ground for restricting speech, particularly when invoked on the basis of individual sensibilities, risks inviting expansive censorship.

Could such regulations be used to silence speech deemed unpalatable?

JVO: Yes, such regulations are likely to exert a chilling effect on speech. Restrictions based on morality or defamation may legitimately intersect with questions of dignity, and in those instances, the Constitution permits limits on expression. The difficulty arises when dignity is invoked as an independent basis for restriction, which is not constitutionally defensible. Such a move would inevitably curtail the freedom of comedians, satirists, and other artists, and discourage them from performing with candour.

AG: I do not endorse the jokes aired in this particular show. Yet, we must recognise that literature and stand-up comedy often confront society with uncomfortable truths and compel us to reflect. The Supreme Court itself has acknowledged the importance of protecting even unpalatable speech. In March, it quashed a criminal case initiated by the Gujarat Police against Congress MP Imran Pratapgadhi, accused of inciting discord through a poem. A Bench headed by Justice A.S. Oka emphasised that Article 19(1)(a) protects not only agreeable speech but also views that may offend or disturb. Moreover, concerns persist that the Union government may revive the Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill, criticised for placing even independent creators under government scrutiny. If we concede that online content must serve only a "social value" defined by the majority, we risk sliding into mass censorship or worse, the arbitrary suppression of voices the state finds inconvenient.

> It is a slippery slope to suggest speech may be curtailed on the basis of a somewhat amorphous concept such as dignity
>
> JAY VINAYAK OJHA

Does the profit-driven nature of commercial speech justify its regulation?

AG: Commercial speech should not be dismissed as irrelevant to public discourse. Our society runs on commerce and trade, and free expression itself is often likened to a "marketplace of ideas". A classic example is *Sakal Papers v. Union of India* (1962), where the government sought to limit the number of pages a newspaper could publish by tying it to its price. The Supreme Court struck this down as unconstitutional, holding that such a measure curtailed both the dissemination of news and the circulation of newspapers. It affirmed that the freedom to publish any number of pages and to reach as many readers as possible is an essential component of the right to free speech under Article 19(1)(a). The same logic extends to other forms of expression. For instance, a stand-up comedian must earn a livelihood to pay for performance venues. But the fact that speech is commercial, or perceived to be driven by profit, cannot in itself justify regulation.

JVO: ...the Supreme Court's jurisprudence has consistently recognised that even commercial speech falls within the ambit of Article 19(1)(a). Moreover, speech of comedians, journalists, or satirists has never traditionally been categorised as commercial speech.

Does the Supreme Court's polyvocality (divergent views expressed by coordinate Benches) inevitably lead to inconsistent precedents?

AG: A polyvocal court does not detract from its status as a court of record, which obliges it to follow the law laid down in earlier decisions. Even when a precedent is inapplicable to a new fact situation or requires incremental modification, its essence remains intact. However, what is troubling in this case is that the court has directed the executive to frame regulations. Such regulations would carry not only the ordinary presumption of constitutionality but also reinforced legitimacy. This court-mandated exercise blurs institutional boundaries and renders any future constitutional challenge doubly difficult.

JVO: The dichotomy between legal certainty and the development of law through individual judicial perspectives has always been contentious. However, we should not conflate the polyvocal nature of courts with the problem of coordinate Benches issuing conflicting judgments. When a Bench of equal strength delivers a ruling that departs from an earlier coordinate Bench, it is a breach of judicial discipline. In such cases, the only proper course is to refer the matter to a larger Bench.

What safeguards should these regulations embody to prevent misuse?

JVO: Safeguards must begin with strong review mechanisms. The regulations should also reflect a clear respect for constitutional values of free speech, and that ethos must extend to those charged with enforcing them. Equally important is meaningful stakeholder consultation, which must not be confined to groups favouring restrictions while excluding those most affected.

AG: The court's order states that all stakeholders will be invited in framing these regulations, but it neither specifies who those stakeholders are nor how they will be consulted. Moreover, the existing takedown regime under Section 69A of the IT Act and the Blocking Rules, 2009, is already opaque. Aggrieved individuals are often not given notice before their content is removed. Such opacity in takedown orders, censorship, and website blocking has become a recurring feature of India's regulatory landscape. These deficiencies must be addressed in the new regulations.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

Makings of Madras Day celebration from behind the scenes

With every Made of Chennai edition, we get to dig deep into The Hindu Archives and offer the beauty we unearth of the city back to its people

Vibha Sudarshan

With Madras Day now behind us, let us take you on a gentle walk through the efforts that unfold quietly, yet passionately, behind the scenes. At the Library Department, every July begins with an eager wait for the official nod that allows us to set the Made of Chennai celebrations in motion. Once greenlit, our journey of ideas, planning, and collaboration begins in earnest.

It was no different this time around. Thirupurasundari Sevvel, the curator for the project, gave us a brief outline of the theme. We then began by sifting through the huge repository of archival images to pick out the best based on the year's theme – *Thiral, Thiran, Thakkam*. The keywords were crowds, celebrations and sporting events in Chennai (then Madras) with the 'Black and White' era in focus.

It was really interesting to find that in a cricket-crazy nation, other sports like badminton, gymnastics, swimming and boxing had a huge following as well. We had a photo of Muhammad Ali visiting Madras in 1980. There was one of Russian gymnast Maria Grokhoskaya, the absolute champion in the Helsinki Olympics, visiting Madras as part of the Russian gymnastics team in 1956.

From the first shortlist of over 120 images, we narrowed it down to 78 photos. With a few iterations, we were ready with the flow and arrangement of photos. Each photo was then colour-corrected and polished to make it resonate with the theme. With the final approvals in place, they were printed and exhibition-ready.

The main attraction – The Book (kept at the centre of the exhibition) – is collated from the rich archives of *The Hindu* with the theme in mind. The carefully curated pages speak volumes about the city, even as the photos tell many a tale. The exhibition was inaugurated on August 8 by film director Revathi and Carnatic musician Aruna Sairam at the Kasturi Buildings.

The curation holds something for everyone in the audience. For a textile enthusiast, it shows how sports apparel has changed over the decades. We had photos of women playing badminton in sarees.

For a heritage enthusiast, images of buildings and places allow them a glimpse of Chennai as it was in the 1950s-60s.

For a marketing enthusiast, the archival pages from *The Hindu* give an idea of how yesteryear brands promoted their products and services. Most of the advertisements featured illustrations that captured the style and costume of the people.

For the senior citizens who come in large numbers, it is a time for recollection of events they had stood witness to.

The Special Madras Day columns always hold a significant place in the Madras Day festivities. This time, our reporters from the Chennai city bureau had written about the Statues in Madras. And also about the various art and cultural activities in Chennai under the theme Crucible of Culture, highlighting light music troupes, gaana music and street theatre. We found some amazing gems from our Archives for the ever-loved Snippets Column. Each piece of news, each story unearthed, became another thread in the fabric of celebration.

We are now ready for the special supplement of *The Hindu* on Madras, curated by historian V. Sriram. Once the theme of the articles is decided, we put out collections of photographs to go with the article. The teamwork, dedication and purpose of providing the best edition of the newspaper to the reader are visible when you browse through the special supplement.

The months of preparation for Made of Chennai is more than just work – it is a journey of rediscovery, a chance to fall in love with the city all over again. And as one celebration ends, our hearts already long for the next, when once more we set out to uncover new gems hidden within this beloved city. Each exhibition and each archival search strongly underlines the core values of *The Hindu* and the spirit with which it is still upheld. At The Hindu Archives, we are ready to uncover more treasures which embody the legacy of *The Hindu* and its Digital archives.

vibha.sudarshan@thehindu.co.in

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

In troubled waters

People wade through chest-deep flood waters at monastery market in New Delhi on Wednesday. Over 8,000 people from six districts in Delhi have been moved to tented flood relief camps as the water level of the Yamuna at the Old Railway Bridge on Wednesday rose to 207.09 metres. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 5, 1975

International Music Day on Oct 1

MADRAS, Sept 4.
The UNESCO is to observe October 1, 1975 as International Music Day and the week from September 29 to October 5 as the first World Music Week. A number of distinguished musicians including M. S. Subbulakshmi have issued appeals to musicians and music organisations the world over to make International Music Day an important landmark in the history of music.
The International Music Council is meeting in Canada this year and there will be a very special concert on October 1 at which violin maestro Yehudi Menuhin will be the soloist. The proceeds will go to the Musicians' International Mutual Aid Fund.
Mr. Yehudi Menuhin, who is the President of the International Music Council will inaugurate both the World Music Week and the International Concert Day. He has appealed to people all over the world, that during the period of the celebrations, they should "express their deepest human feelings and their highest hopes through the medium of music."
He adds in the course of his appeal: "Words have been so abused, especially with the growing illiteracy of our contemporary societies, but music still offers the possibility of human understanding with the minimum of disagreement..."

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 5, 1925

Immigration into Australia

PROHIBITION OF INDIANS: "WHITE POLICY CRITICISED
Sydney, Sep. 4.
The speeches at a dinner given last night by the State Government in honour of the visiting pressmen, developed into a discussion of the "White Australia" policy.
The Governor presided over the occasion. Minister Loughlan opened the subject by explaining the policy on which Australia was unanimous and which was not based on any idea of the racial superiority of the Whites, but on the well-known dissimilarity of the whites and the coloureds in feelings, sentiment and other respects. Australia recognised the need for more people, but did not by wholesale immigration want to introduce slumdom and poverty into the country.

From Page One

Auto, pharma sectors cheer GST slabs

As per the new rates, entry-level and mid-segment cars priced up to ₹14 lakh will see a tax reduction of up to 13 percentage points, while high-end cars with engines above 1200 cc too are set to see an 8 to 10 percentage point cut in their tax rate.

Auto dealers, however, have voiced some worries about consumers postponing their purchases until September 22, when the new rates come into force, and have called for greater clarity on what happens to the cess on vehicles they have already bought from manufacturers but not yet sold to customers.

The healthcare industry's reaction has been more unequivocally positive, saying that the decision to reduce GST from 12% to 5% on a wide range of medical products.

Consumer appliance makers were also upbeat about the GST rate cuts, saying they would boost demand, especially in the run-up to the festive season.

(With inputs from Sharad Raghavan, Jagriti Chandra, M. Soundariya Preetha, Lalatendu Mishra, Saptaparno Ghosh, and Bindu Shajan Perappadan)

Centre, Manipur ink pact with Kuki groups

Asked if the SoO groups have given up their demand for a separate administration or Union Territory with a legislature, Seilen Haokip, spokesperson Kuki National Organisation (KNO), one of the signatories, told *The Hindu*, "Though the agreement speaks about territorial integrity of Manipur, it also mentions political settlement within the Constitution of India. The Constitution speaks about the integrity of the country, not a district or a State."

He added that "negotiated political settlement within Constitution of India" is a new inclusion in the agreement as it was not there in the 2008 text when the demand was for territorial councils in Manipur.

The Kuki-Zo Council (KZC), a conglomerate of civil society organisations, agreed to open the National Highway-2 (Imphal-Dimapur) passing through Kangpokpi district "for the free movement of commuters and essential goods", the Ministry said.

We will be left with no forests, says SC

Mr. Mehta, who was present in the courtroom for the next case, intervened after the Bench, also comprising Justice Vinod Chandran, asked him to.

The top law officer agreed with the court that the situation cannot be allowed to continue. "This just cannot be," Mr. Mehta said.

The court also issued notice to the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) after the petitioner, Anamika Rana, represented by advocate Akash Vashishtha, said there were 14 tunnels between Chandigarh and Manali that turn into death traps during floods. The petitioner's counsel said at least 300 people were stranded recently during the floods inside the tunnel.

"Therefore, we have issued notice to the NHAI," Chief Justice Gavai addressed him.

'Payback from nature'

Mr. Mehta said the natural disasters were payback from nature. "We are interfering with nature so much that nature is giving back," he remarked.

The CJI reiterated that the court was seriously concerned with the repetitive occurrence of landslides and floods in these ecologically sensitive areas. It listed the case in two weeks.

The petition has sought the immediate intervention of the apex court to constitute action plans, a Special Investigation Team enquiry and geological, geo-technical and ecological investigation to prevent future disasters and save the pristine, fragile Ecology of the Himalayan States.

IIT-Madras retains top slot in NIRF rankings

Mr. Pradhan said he was confident that the NIRF would evolve into one of the best accreditation frameworks by including more parameters such as entrepreneurs created by an institution, involving more data-driven approaches, and including more categories and institutions in the future.

The top 100 institutions in the overall category comprised 24 State universities, 22 private deemed universities, 19 IITs and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), nine private universities, eight National Institutes of Technology, seven Central universities, five medical institutions, four Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, one college, and the Indian Agriculture Research Institute.

IISc, Bengaluru topped the universities category for the tenth consecutive year and also stood first in the research institutions category for the fifth consecutive year. IIM Ahmedabad was the best institution for management studies for the sixth consecutive year. The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi occupied the top slot among medical institutions for the eighth consecutive year and also topped the rankings in the dental category for the first time.

Rahul asks Minister to look at FRA violations

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress leader and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi has written to Union Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram about alleged Forest Rights Act violations in the forest clearance granted to the ₹72,000 crore Great Nicobar Island mega-infrastructure project.

In August, the Tribal Council of Little and Great Nicobar highlighted these violations in a letter to Mr. Oram, alleging that the Andaman and Nicobar Islands administration had made a false representation to the Centre.

Mr. Gandhi urged Mr. Oram on Wednesday to examine the Council's concerns. "I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the violation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA) in the grant of clearances for the Great Nicobar Project... Any development initiative must be grounded in our constitutional values of justice, equality, and respect for human dignity," he wrote.

Revised SoO pact tightens norms for Kuki-Zo groups

The new pact says stipend will be paid only through Aadhaar-linked bank accounts to cadres; the agreement will be followed by a 'tripartite dialogue for a negotiated political settlement'

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The revised Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement signed between the Ministry of Home Affairs, Manipur government and 24 Kuki-Zo insurgent groups on Thursday lays down the mechanism to monitor activities of cadres, and requires them to obtain Aadhaar cards.

According to the 2008 SoO pact, signed in the aftermath of the Kuki-Naga clashes in the 1990s, around 2,200 cadres under the umbrella of the Kuki National Organisation (KNO) and United People's Front (UPF) were entitled to a stipend of ₹6,000 per month, which was stopped since ethnic violence erupted in the State on May 3, 2023.

The revised pact, details of which was accessed by *The Hindu*, is valid for a year and says stipend will be paid only through Aadhaar-linked bank accounts to those members who are present in camps during inspection. Photo identity cards shall be provided by the Manipur Police, it says.

Security forces recently recovered a cache of weapons and ammunition from various insurgent groups in Manipur. ANI

Six camps each

The agreement states that the KNO and UPF shall have six camps each, instead of the 14 they operate presently and the camps shall not be located close to populated areas, National Highways and within areas vulnerable to conflict. The camps are to be located at reasonable distance from the Myanmar border as well.

A complete list of the cadres will be prepared by the government with name, date of birth, and other details along with latest photographs. Foreign nationals, if any, shall be deleted from the list of leaders and cadres, the pact says.

The preamble of the pact states that it was mutually agreed to review the implementation of the ground rules, and KNO and UPF shall "completely abjure the path of violence and abide by the Constitution of India, laws of the land, and territorial integrity of Manipur". "SoO agreement shall be followed by tripartite dialogue with KNO and UPF to pave the way for a negotiated political settlement under the Constitution of India in a time-bound manner," it says.

The pact bars groups from having association with any other armed group, within the country or outside; from recruiting new cadres; and carrying out offensive operations against security forces, other groups, and the public. The Army, Assam Rifles, Central Armed Police Forces and the the State Police shall not launch operations against the groups "as long as they abide" by the agreement.

9,000 rescued as floods hit three districts in Kashmir

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Floodwaters entered several urban pockets in three districts of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday as the Jhelum breached an embankment, forcing the authorities to evacuate around 9,000 people. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah questioned the previous administration for poor measures to mitigate flood threat in Kashmir Valley. Hundreds of civilians moved to safer locations in the Lasjan, Soiteng, Nowgam, Vyethpora, Golpora, Padshahi Bagh, and Mehjoornagar areas of Pulwama, Budgam, and Srinagar.

Officials said the Jhelum river, which was flowing above the danger mark, breached at Shalina in Budgam district. Floodwaters entered hundreds of houses in Zoonipora and adjacent pockets of Seerbagh, Summerbugh, and Lasjan. Hundreds of personnel from the SDRF and NDRF, were deployed to rescue stranded persons in low-lying areas.

'India's birth rate down, first dip in TFR in 2 years'

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

India's Crude Birth Rate (CBR), the number of children born per 1,000 people in the population in a year, has declined 0.7-points from 19.1 in 2022 to 18.4 in 2023. The country's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has fallen for the first time in two years to 1.9 in 2023, according to the latest Sample Registration Survey Statistical Report for 2023. In 2021 and 2022, India's TFR remained constant at 2.0.

The report, released by the Office of the Registrar General of India this week, revealed that the highest CBR was in Bihar at 25.8, and the lowest was in Tamil Nadu at 12. Bihar reported the highest TFR (2.8) among the bigger States and Union Territories (UTs), and Delhi reported the lowest (1.2).

The report pointed out that 18 States and UTs had reported a TFR of below the replacement level TFR of 2.1. Replacement level TFR denotes the average number of children each woman needs to give birth for one generation to replace the other.

The latest data was sourced from Sample Registration Survey Statistical Report released this week

The RGI released the Civil Registration System (CRS), Sample Registration System (SRS), and Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) reports for 2021 after a four-year delay in May this year, and in June, the SRS, CRS, and MCCD data for 2022 were released. While the SRS for 2023 has been made public, the corresponding CRS and MCCD datasets are yet to appear on the Census website.

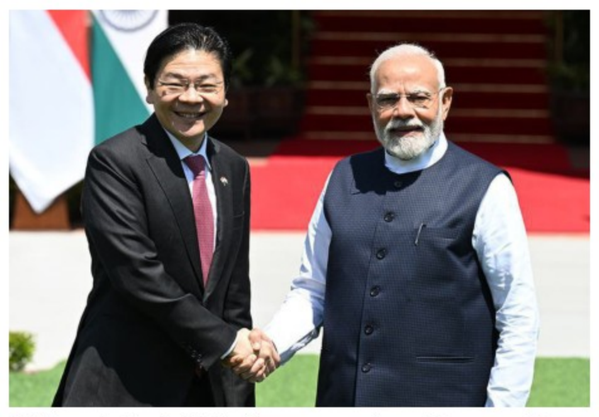
The SRS 2023 datasets showed that the proportion of the elderly in the country (people above 60) rose by 0.7 percentage points in a year to 9.7% of the population. Kerala has the highest proportion of elderly population at 15%. Assam (7.6%), Delhi (7.7%), and Jharkhand (7.6%) reported the lowest proportion of their respective populations to be above 60.

The TFR data, which denotes the average number of children expected to be born per woman during her entire span of reproductive period, further showed that all States reporting TFR that is higher than replacement level were in northern India - Bihar (2.8), Uttar Pradesh (2.6), Madhya Pradesh (2.4), Rajasthan (2.3), and Chhattisgarh (2.2). The States and UTs reporting the lowest TFR included Delhi (1.2), West Bengal (1.3), Tamil Nadu (1.3), and Maharashtra (1.4).

Singapore backs India on patrolling Malacca Straits

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Singapore on Thursday acknowledged India's plans to patrol the strategically important Malacca Straits. The discussion was part of the agenda when Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Singaporean Prime Minister Lawrence Wong at Hyderabad House where the two sides signed five agreements, including one to export green energy from India to Singapore through dedicated ports.



PM Narendra Modi with his Singapore counterpart Lawrence Wong at Hyderabad House, in New Delhi on Thursday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

"Today, we have charted a detailed roadmap for the future of our partnership. Our cooperation will not remain confined to traditional areas. In keeping with the needs of changing times, advanced manufacturing, green shipping, skilling, civil nuclear energy, and urban water management will also emerge as focus points of our collaboration," said Mr. Modi welcoming his Singaporean counterpart who paid a three-day visit to India.

A joint statement said the two sides will deepen defence technology cooperation in "quantum computing, AI, automation and unmanned vessels". Both sides will cooperate to enhance maritime security, "submarine rescue" in the "Indo-Pacific" and the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative, said the statement, adding that "Singapore acknowledges with appreciation India's interest in the Malacca Straits Patrol".

Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, P. Kumaran said India is interested in patrolling the Malacca Straits as it is next to the Andaman Sea and said that talks are on. Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore patrol the Straits and India is expecting some kind of synergy among member countries.

After adverse weather, four radars to be set up in J&K

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Union Science Minister Jitendra Singh on Thursday said that the India Meteorological Department (IMD) would be installing four additional radars under Mission Mausam in Jammu and Kashmir for more accurate weather forecasts and early warnings. Well-positioned radars are useful in improving the lead time in warning of sudden changes in weather that can bring intense rainfall.

There are already three radars operational in the Union Territory. No details on the precise locations or a timeline for setting up the radars has been announced.

Home Minister Amit Shah had constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee to assess the damage and ensure coordinated assistance, Dr. Singh said.

Two weeks on, Parliament yet to form Joint Committee on Bills to remove PM, CMs

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Trinamool Congress, Samajwadi Party, and Shiv Sena (UBT) have declared their intent to not join the panel

Parliament is yet to constitute the Joint Committee that will review the three Bills on the removal of the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, and Ministers arrested on serious criminal charges for 30 days.

The Lok Sabha had passed the resolution to refer the Bills to the panel two weeks ago.

Congress undecided

While the Congress, which is the single largest Opposition party in the Lok Sabha, is yet to take a decision on joining the panel, the Trinamool Congress, the Samajwadi Party, and the Shiv Sena (UBT) have declared their intent to keep away.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah had introduced the Constitution (One Hundred and Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025; the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025; and the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2025 in the Lok Sabha on August 20.

A senior Congress leader on Thursday said the decision on whether to join the panel or not was under "active consideration". The Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) is leaning towards not being part of the committee. The SP has also made similar arguments. "These Bills are clearly aimed to destabilise elected governments in Opposition-ruled States. They were introduced with malice. Our presence in the panel is unlikely to have a significant impact on the sum and substance of the legislation," Rajya Sabha member and SP leader Javed Ali Khan said.

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's Rajya Sabha floor leader Tiruchi Siva said his party was working with others to decide on the issue. "We will take a united stand on the issue. We are discussing with others all relevant aspects," Mr. Siva said.

There is also a counter-argument that participation in such a panel would help record the Opposition's objections.

Many in the Opposition have argued that this will have a legal significance and can be cited in court, if the Opposition decides to challenge the Bills.

Poll body issues notice to Khera's wife for dual voter registration

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress leader Pawan Khera's wife was served a notice on Thursday for being registered as a voter in more than one constituency, in Delhi and Telangana.

The Electoral Registration Officer of the New Delhi assembly constituency issued a notice to Mr. Khera's wife, Kota Neelima. "As you may be aware, that being registered in the electoral roll of more than one constituency is a penal offence under the Representation of People Act, 1950. You are, therefore, directed to show cause as to why action should not be taken against you under said Act," read the notice.

The notice said that she was registered as a voter in the New Delhi constituency and Khairtabad in Telangana. She has until 11 a.m. on September 10 to tender her reply.

APPEAL

Baby Shreeyansi Padhan, Hospital No. MH016993798, 11 Months daughter of Mr. Soundarjya Padhan admitted Manipal Hospitals is diagnosed to be suffering from Congenital heart diseases VSD, Pulmonary atresia long segment, left arch with arsa, "Smallish PDA" Confluent smallish PAs. She requires to undergo early surgical BT shunt. The Estimated Cost of the Surgery is Rs.6,00,000/-

Kindly send donation however small by Cheque/D.D/M.O Favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Shreeyanshi Padhan, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. 9884607377, UPI Id: savepoorlives@oksbi. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. 044-42044165 & 044-35691848, Mobile: 9884607377, Email: savepoorlives@gmail.com. Our website: www.savepoorlives.com.

UNCHANGED RATES
Gold & silver at 3%
Electric vehicles at 5%
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted, of sale value not exceeding ₹2,500 per piece at 5%
Footwear of sale value exceeding ₹2,500 per pair at 18%
SPECIAL RATES
GST
SOUMYADIP SINHA

Major reductions in GST revamp

A category-wise list of items whose prices are set to change. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that the decisions would come into effect from Sept. 22 for most items

FOOD

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
Ultra-high temperature (UHT) milk	5%	0%
Butter, ghee, cheese, and dairy spreads	12%	5%
Dates, mangoes, citrus and other fruits	12%	5%
Vegetable products	18%	5%
Fish fats and oils	12%	5%
Refined sugar goods	12%	5%
Chocolates and cocoa products	18%	5%
Cornflakes and cereal	18%	5%
Pastry, biscuits, and cakes	18%	5%
Nuts	12%	5%
Coffee and coffee extracts	18%	5%
Ice cream and other edible ice	18%	5%
Paratha, parotta and other Indian breads	18%	0%
Pan masala*	28%	40%
Soya milk drinks	12%	5%

AUTOMOBILE

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
Motor vehicles	28%	18%
Motorcycles of engine capacity exceeding 350 cc	28%	40%
Bicycles and other cycles	12%	5%

CONSUMER ELECTRONICS

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
Air conditioners, dishwashers, televisions sets, monitors	28%	18%

Cars get cheaper, festive sales likely to hit top gear

Sub-4 metre cars with engines below 1,200 cc and 1,500 cc to attract 18% GST; dealers expect increased buyer interest in price-sensitive segments; bigger cars will invite a 40% GST, but removal of cess will boost net savings on purchase

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) overhaul will make cars cheaper this festive season across segments. Entry-level and mid-segment cars priced ₹14 lakh and below will see a reduction up to 13% in GST and cess, making them more attractive to a price-sensitive customer base. High-end cars with engines above 1,200 cc are set to become 5-10% cheaper.

Small cars that run on petrol, LPG and CNG with engines below 1,200 cc, and diesel cars of up to 1,500 cc and with a length under 4 metres will attract a GST of 18% instead of 28%. The cess of 1% and 3% will no longer be applicable.

"The benefit is greater for entry and mid-level segment as there is price sensitivity. The news will definitely bring cheer to buyers, and we expect more footfall at showrooms," said Vinkesh Gulati, vice-president, Automotive Skill Development Council, and former president of the Federation of Automobile Dealers Association.

Unsoo Kim, managing director of Hyundai Motor India Ltd., called the GST revision a move that will "strengthen consumer confidence". The company has 60% of its internal combustion engine portfolio under the 18% slab rate, with the remainder at 40%. All mid-sized and large cars, up to and above 1,500 cc and over 4 metres in length, will attract a higher GST of 40% instead of 28%. But the net savings of 5-10% come from a complete removal of cess, which stood at 17% for passenger vehicles with up to 1,500 cc engines, 20% with over 1,500 cc engines, and 22% for SUVs.

"Government listened to the automotive industry's long-standing wish list of rationalising GST rates. This will induce the much-needed impetus by boosting consumption and bring momentum to the automotive industry which essentially remains the pulse of the Indian economy," said Santosh Iyer, managing director & CEO, Mercedes-Benz India, in a press statement.

The flat GST on electric vehicles remains unchanged at 5%.

Higher GST for bikes

However, motorbike enthusiasts have been left disappointed as high-end two-wheelers with bigger engines will invite a higher GST of 40% instead of the prevalent 31% rate that includes 28% GST and 3% cess for bikes with engines above 350 cc.

There is also small relief expected in vehicle servicing and repair costs as the GST on spare parts has been brought down to 18% from 28%, but due to the varying taxation for different items such as rubber and fibre, the eventual benefit will accrue where there is a net drop.

The GST on commercial vehicles such as buses and trucks has dropped from 28% to 18%. "This will not only reduce logistics costs for the economy, but encourage customers to upgrade their fleets with modern, fuel efficient and safer trucks and buses," said Vinod Aggarwal, vice-chairman, EML, and managing director & CEO of VE Commercial Vehicles.

But dealerships rue that the implementation of the new rates comes into effect three weeks later on September 22. They fear that this will result in some buyers postponing their purchase. Also, due to the removal of cess, dealerships are staring at a loss of ₹2,500 crore because of credit payments made on the cess for the inventory already purchased from automakers.

Dealers deposit the cess as a credit item at the time of their purchase and make the actual deposit on the GST portal once they sell the car to a buyer.

There is a lowering of tax on farm equipment too from 18% to 5% for tractors and parts. "These GST reforms will accelerate mechanisation by making tractors, harvesters, balers and implements more affordable, while lowering overall operating costs for farmers," said tractor and construction equipment maker CNH India's president & managing director, Narinder Mittal.

HEALTHCARE

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
All drugs and medicines intended for personal use	12%	5%
Medical apparatus	18%	5%

PERSONAL CARE

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
Talcum powder, hair oil, shampoo, toothbrushes	18%	5%
Combs, diapers, napkins	12%	5%

EDUCATION

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
Mathematical boxes, geometry boxes and colour boxes	12%	5%
Maps, charts, and globes	12%	0%
Stationery products	12%	0%

OTHERS

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
Tables, paper products, cotton and jute handbags, tools	12%	5%

TOBACCO

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
Cigars, cigarettes, and nicotine-based substitutes	28%	40%
Beedis	28%	18%

TEXTILES

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
Sewing thread, twine, textile materials, fabrics, carpets	12%	5%
Quilted textile materials	12%	18%

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
All solar-power based devices such as cookers, water-heaters, lanterns	12%	5%
Windmills	12%	5%
Bio gas plants	12%	5%

SPORTS & TOYS

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
Sports gloves, tricycles, dolls, playing cards	12%	5%

SERVICES

*Input Tax Credit

Item	Existing GST rate	New rate
All individual health insurance, along with reinsurance thereof	18%	0%
Air transport of passengers in other than economy class	12% with ITC*	18% with ITC
Hotel accommodation (₹7,500 or below)	12% with ITC	5% with ITC
Admission to casinos, race clubs, any place having casinos or race clubs, or sporting events like the IPL	28% with ITC	40% with ITC

White goods makers anticipate a cracker of a festive season

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The consumer appliances industry welcomed with enthusiasm the reduction of GST rates on air conditioners and dishwashers and the standardisation of rates for all television variants, especially ahead of the festive season.

The GST Council slashed rates on air-conditioners and dishwashers from 28% to 18%, while it standardised the rate on all types of televisions to a lower 18%. Previously, the purchase of televisions housed two tax rates – 18% and 28% – depending on the screen size being within or more than 32 inches.

Manish Sharma, chairman of appliance manufacturer Panasonic Life Solution India, said that the move would "directly benefit consumers, especially as we step into the festive season". He added the rationalisation, coupled with the upward revision in income tax slabs for exemption during the Budget, would "create a strong momentum for the consumer durables sector, driving high demand across urban and emerging markets".

Ravi Agarwal, co-founder and managing director at the India-based manufacturer of appliances and gadgets Cellecor, added the rationalisation would not only enhance affordability but also simplify compliance and operational efficiency for manufacturers and brands.

No change for phones

The council, however, did not alter the GST on smartphones, tablets and laptops. While welcoming the revision for consumer appliances, Pankaj Mohindroo, Chairman at the India Cellular & Electronics Association (ICEA), said, "We also remain hopeful that the rationalisation of GST on smartphones and laptops will be considered in the future, given its potential to improve affordability and strengthen digital inclusion."

Zero GST is expected to increase penetration of health, life insurance

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
Lalatendu Mishra
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

Insurance covers will ease burden on families when inflation is rising sharply, say experts

The healthcare industry has welcomed the zero GST on individual health and life insurance policies, calling it a master stroke.

The GST Council's decision to bring down the GST on individual life and health insurance policies from 18% to zero will make more families opt for medical cover, said analysts and industry executives.

An insurance cover will ease burden on families when medical inflation is rising sharply and is unchecked, they said.

Shobana Kamineni, executive chairperson, Apollo Healthco, said on Thursday that the move made health protection a right, not a privilege.

Anand Roy, CEO and managing director, Star Health and Allied Insurance, said the "reform will reshape the insurance landscape, accelerating penetration, driving higher renewal rates, building deeper customer loyalty, and being a critical catalyst for future growth".

"This progressive reform will directly benefit patients by lowering treatment costs, improving affordability, and expanding access to essential medical technologies," said Himanshu Baid, managing director, Poly Medicure Ltd., said.

However, industry executives said scrapping the tax on insurance services would mean that insurers would lose access to input tax credits on expenses linked to such policies. Insurers will be required to reverse input tax credits relating to these exempt outputs. This embedded tax could eventually feed into the costing structure, impacting the profits of the companies, they said.

Terming the GST Council's decision a "much-needed reform", Joydeep Saha, managing director and chief executive officer of ManipalCigna Health Insurance, said it would help millions of households safeguard themselves against unforeseen medical expenses without worrying about affordability, at a time when medical costs and healthcare inflation are on the rise. "The reform will not only benefit existing customers but also empower more families to opt for health insurance coverage," Mr. Saha said.

"This move will encourage greater penetration, especially among first-time buyers and underserved sections of society. For the industry, it represents a meaningful opportunity to bridge the protection gap and innovate in product offerings. Overall, we see this as a transformative push for greater financial inclusion and societal well-being," he said.

The exemption is scheduled to come into force on September 22, coinciding with the transition to a streamlined two-rate GST structure. This change will apply to premiums on all individual life insurance, whether pure protection or unit-linked, and to individual health insurance, including family floater and senior citizen plans.

"The exemption also extends to the reinsurance of these individual policies, ensuring tax neutrality across the risk management chain. However, the benefit is limited to individual covers. Group insurance policies, such as employer-sponsored health or life schemes, will continue to attract 18% GST with no input tax credit available to the employers," said Jignesh Ghelani, Partner at Dhruva Advisors.

"This makes it clear that the policy intent is to directly ease costs for households rather than institutional buyers," he said.

The industry said reduced GST on medicines and medical devices was a progressive reform.

While healthcare services by doctors, hospitals, and diagnostic centres were exempt under the GST regime, the government has announced a series of GST rationalisation measures to promote a health-positive tax regime, the Health Ministry said.

Premium air travel to become costlier; industry anguished

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The airline industry has termed the Centre's decision to raise goods and services tax on premium air travel, including premium economy and business class flight tickets, from 12% to 18% "disappointing".

The revised taxes will come into effect from September 22 and apply both for domestic and international flights offered by Indian and foreign carriers.

"Aviation has tremendous potential to contribute to India's economic growth, both directly as Indian airlines grow, and indirectly through increased connectivity for travellers and businesses alike. It is therefore disappointing to hear of a decision to increase the GST on non-economy travel with no clear justification," said International Air Transport Association's regional vice-president, Asia Pacific, Sheldon Hee.

Over the years, this component of tax had more than doubled, growing from the 8.6% rate in 2017 under the service tax regime to 18%, he added.

'Must consider risks'

"This increase runs counter to the efforts of Indian carriers, which have been investing in their premium products to enhance the travel experience on their flights," Mr. Hee said, adding that India must consider the risks of such policies on dampening demand and undermining profitability.

While first-, business- and premium economy-class travel is offered by foreign carriers, among Indian airlines, Air India offers business and premium economy travel on domestic and international flights. IndiGo too has introduced business-class seats on flights to Mumbai and Bengaluru from New Delhi as well as to Singapore, Bangkok and Dubai, which will grow to 12 total routes by the end of 2025.

INBRIEF

Five years on, SC re-examines CCTV order for police stations

Five years after a Supreme Court judgment made it mandatory to install and maintain CCTV cameras in police stations and offices of central law enforcement agencies with powers of "interrogation", the Supreme Court on Thursday reopened the issue following reports of custodial deaths. A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta took *suo motu* cognisance of a media report that around 11 people had died in police custody in the past seven to eight months. In 2020, a three-judge Bench had directed the Centre to compulsorily install CCTV cameras and recording equipment in police stations as a deterrent against custodial torture.

Gadkari lobbying for ethanol blending, alleges Congress

The Congress on Thursday criticised Union Minister Nitin Gadkari for "aggressively lobbying" for the ethanol blending policy, alleging that there is a clear conflict of interest as his two sons were the main ethanol suppliers. The Congress's Media and Publicity Department chairman, Pawan Khera, made a reference to Mr. Gadkari's remarks that ethanol mixing will bring down the cost of diesel. "Instead, the common man is left paying more – each litre of ethanol guzzles a staggering 3,000 litres of water," he said.

GST 2.0 is a double dose of support and growth, says PM

Prime Minister says new GST rates, effective from the first day of Navratri, provide savings on household essentials, clothes, and shoes while giving strength to the new economy; he slams Cong.-era taxes, saying reforms will improve quality of life

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A simpler structure of Goods and Services Tax (GST) with new rates of 5% and 18% will become effective from the first day of Navratri, Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated on Thursday in New Delhi, while interacting with the National Awardee teachers at his residence.

"GST 2.0 is a double dose of support and growth for the nation. Next-generation reforms in GST have been done to support India's progress in the 21st century. I had promised a double *dhamaka* of happiness before this Deepavali and Chhath Puja," he added.

"This time Dhanteras will be even more vibrant because taxes on dozens of things have been reduced substantially. When GST was implemented eight years ago, the dream of several decades had come true. This was one of the biggest economic reforms in India. A great work was done to free the country from the burden of several types of taxes... It is being called the next generation reform in GST, but in reality, it is a double dose of support and growth for the country. Double dose means savings for the common family on one hand and new strength to the country's economy on the other," Mr. Modi said.

"Poor, neo middle-class, middle-class women, students, farmers, youth... everyone will benefit from reduced GST rates," he said.

"Until 2014, be it cooking items, medicines, agricultural items, or health insurance, the Congress government was imposing taxes on every item. In the BJP-NDA government, we are aiming at ensuring household savings," Mr. Modi said.

He added, "Building a house was expensive with 29% tax levied on cement; AC, TV, fans were expensive with 31% tax being levied on them. Now these items will attract 18% tax. Farmers were unhappy before 2014 as agricultural items were heavily taxed, now they will attract 12-14% tax."

"Clothes and shoes are set to get cheaper; this will benefit start-ups and MSMEs. Tax on fitness, gym, salons, and yoga has been reduced," he added.

Five new gems (*panch ratna*) have been added to India's vibrant economy through GST reforms, Mr. Modi said. "Quality of life of Indian citizens will improve, consumption and growth will get a new booster dose post-GST reform. Better ease of doing business will give a boost to investments and employment," he said. "GST reforms will strengthen cooperative federalism to build a developed India."

New reforms: PM Narendra Modi addresses a gathering during a meeting with winners of National Teachers Awards, in New Delhi. PTI

'GST reforms bundle of happiness for masses'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The BJP on Thursday lauded the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Union government for major reductions in Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates.

BJP MP and party spokesperson Sambit Patra criticised the Congress, stating that it failed to implement GST during its long innings in power.

"No one had imagined that we would become the fastest growing major economy, but today we are...," he said, adding that the GST reforms were a major change and a "bundle of happiness".

18% GST on labour charges alarms MSMEs

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

The GST rate for labour charges (job work) has been increased from 12% to 18% and it is expected to hit hard the Micro, Small, and Medium-scale Enterprises (MSMEs).

C. Sivakumar, president of the Coimbatore Tiruppur district Micro and Cottage Entrepreneurs Association, said one of the long-pending demands of the job working/sub-contract industries in the manufacturing sector is the reduction of GST on job work to 5% from 12%. However, the government has increased it to 18%. This will create several challenges for the job working in micro and small-scale industries, he said.

The Coimbatore District Small Industries Association has urged the government to have a relook at the rates for job work. The government should put in place a system so that lower GST rates for job work benefit the MSMEs that are vendors to larger industries and get only labour charges. The 18% duty will block the liquidity for the MSMEs, it said.

Centre approves creation of new, independent class of 'environment auditors'

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The Environment Ministry has authorised the creation of a new, independent class of "environment auditors" to supplement the work of State pollution control Boards in inspecting and verifying projects for compliance with environmental laws. Private, accredited agencies can also undertake environment impact assessment studies that will then be appraised by expert committees.

Under the new rules, called the Environment Audit Rules, 2025, private agencies can get themselves accredited as auditors. Environment auditors can get licences and be authorised to evaluate project compliance with environmental laws and adherence to best practices in prevention, control, and abatement of pollution.

Audits by private agencies can be used for compliance with Green Credit Rules.

"The overall framework for monitoring and compliance within the existing environmental framework is presently supported by the Central Pollution Control Board, the Regional Offices of the Ministry, and the State PCBs/Pollution Control Committees, which are facing constraints in terms of manpower, resources, capacity, and infrastructure. These limitations hamper their ability to monitor and enforce environmental compliance across the vast number of projects and industries operating," said a press statement by the Ministry.

"This scheme aims to bridge the manpower and infrastructure deficits, thereby strengthening the effective implementation of environmental compliance mechanisms. Furthermore, the scheme is designed to ensure greater transparency, accountability, and credibility in the compliance monitoring process, fostering trust among stakeholders and promoting sustainable environmental governance."

Audits undertaken can be used for compliance with Green Credit Rules, under which individuals and organisations can gain tradeable "credits" for afforestation, sustainable water management, and waste management, among other activities.

CMAI seeks uniform 5% GST on apparel to correct 'anomaly'

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

The textile industry, which welcomed the revision of GST rates for the textile value chain in both man-made fibre and cotton sectors, expressed disappointment over 18% duty for garments priced above ₹2,500 each.

The increase of the 5% limit for garments from ₹1,000 each to ₹2,500 is a positive move, said the Cloth Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI). However, in the entire textile value chain from fibre to garment, garments above ₹2,500 are the only products which are not at 5%. "We earnestly request the GST Council to remove this anomaly, and either place all garments, irrespective of the price, at 5%, or fix a more reasonable and realistic price level (for 18%)."

"Garments above the price of ₹2,500 are also consumed in large numbers by the common man and middle class, especially woollen clothing, occasion wear, Indian traditional clothing, handlooms, and embroidered clothes. These will see a price increase due to this," it said.

"Anything that gets expensive will affect sales. Hence, we request the government to have a relook," Sanjay Jain, chairman of the national textiles committee of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, said.

Garments above the price of ₹2,500 are consumed in large numbers by the common man.

Congress demands States be compensated for five years after GST rate cuts

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Welcoming the rationalisation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates, the Congress on Thursday said the BJP celebrated record collections "as if collecting taxes from common people is an achievement".

The party termed the GST Council's approval to overhaul the indirect tax regime as "GST 1.5", saying the wait for a "true GST 2.0" continues.

The Congress demanded that all States be compensated for a period of five years, considering 2024-25 as the base year, arguing that the reduction in rates would adversely affect their revenue.

"The Modi government changed 'One Nation, One Tax' to 'One Nation, 9 Taxes'. It included tax slabs of 0%, 5%, 12%, 18%, 28% and special rates of 0.25%, 1.5%, 3% and 6%," Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said in a post on X. "The Congress party had demanded GST 2.0 with a simple and rational tax system in its 2019 and 2024 manifestos," he added.

Mallikarjun Kharge

Mr. Kharge recalled that the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance government formally announced GST in the Lok Sabha on February 28, 2005, and that in 2011, when then Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee introduced the GST Bill, the BJP opposed it. He added that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, as the then Gujarat Chief Minister, had opposed the tax regime.

"Today, this same BJP government celebrates record GST collections, as if it has done a great job by collecting tax from the common people. For the first time in the history of the country, farmers have been taxed...," he said.

Former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram described the overhaul as a "U-turn" and said, "GST rationalisation and reduction of the rates are welcome, but one is left with the thought that these steps are eight years too late."

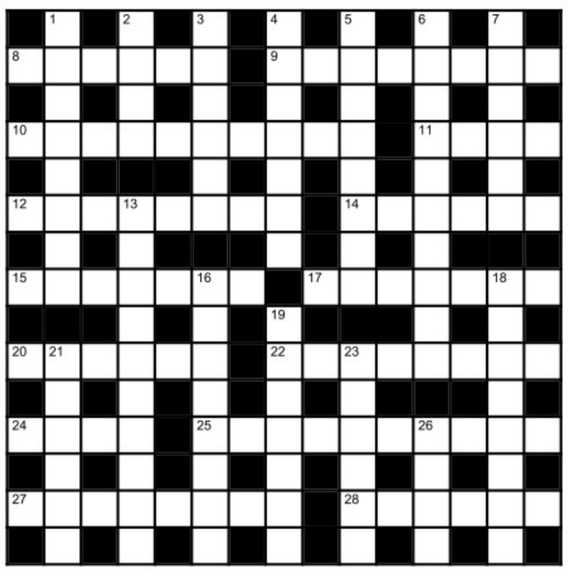
Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh said the key demand of the States – extension of compensation for another five years to protect revenues – remained unaddressed.

TH CROSSWORD + 14581

(set by Hypatia)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Expatriate returning in party clothes (6)
9 Leader's book concluding in bar made reforms (8)
10 Recurring letters from old Naik touring hill station (10)
11 Hard disk caches regularly get loaded (4)
12 Spooner's watchman moved towards Solitaire, say (4,4)
14 Bits of South Asian made oily, stuffed and savoury snack (6)
15 Copies Arabic men in neighbourhoods (7)
17 Somewhat bright sun amidst natural disaster (7)
20 Refuse to take a lift (6)
22 Someone else called the same guy on the counter close to expensive wine (8)
24 Fling vessel (4)
25 Flaunting his gown (7,3)
27 Dilemma in quiz session involving university online? (8)
28 "Recruit" cast striking with Winslet (6)

Down

1 Perhaps not available in ordinary artist's farewell (8)
2 Travel permit is taken to enter Venezuela, on vacation (4)
3 Meditation centre in Karachi, almost bombed (6)
4 Caretakers sheltering orphan in quarters (7)
5 Order exotic silks and needles (8)
6 Fuss by nurse and staff emptying tables for fancy accessories (10)
7 Europeans welcome start of camping trips (6)
13 Competitive exam in favourite city (10)
16 *Tawiz,* say mostly with soldier protecting lives (8)
18 Hurry and prepare to observe Ramadan (4,4)
19 Opposite of many? Not wrong! (7)
21 Revolutionary act in old American flight (6)
23 Nominated criminal - not this lady (6)
26 Quietly, bear picked up swallow (4)

SUDOKU

		7		1				
1			2	9	7	5		
4			5		6	2		
2			3					
	9						1	
					1			8
		8	9		2			6
		5	1	4	3			7
				5		3		

No.SS6632 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

		R	A		R	I		A
A	D	H	O	C		E	N	S
B		E		T		D		L
R	E	T	S	I	N	A		E
O		O		O		D		
A	C	R	O	N	Y	M		P
D		I				I		O
		C	O	N	T	R	O	L
R				A		A		I
A	R	S	E	N	A	L		T
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Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	8	4	3	2	7	9	1	5
2	5	3	1	8	9	6	4	7
9	7	1	5	4	6	8	2	3
5	6	8	9	1	3	2	7	4
4	2	7	6	5	8	3	9	1
3	1	9	2	7	4	5	6	8
1	4	6	8	9	5	7	3	2
7	3	5	4	6	2	1	8	9
8	9	2	7	3	1	4	5	6

FAITH

Onam, giant leap of faith

One commendable trait in asuras is their complete faith in God. From the fearless Sukrachariar to Mahabali and Ravana, all of them undertook severe penances to gain boons. However, they misused the powers, said Damal S Ramakrishnan. Mahabali, a staunch devotee of Vishnu, was renowned for his charitable deeds. A sishya of Sukrachariar, the leader of the asuras, and the one responsible for taking away the wealth of the devas (through a yagna) and distributing it among his clan, Mahabali was the richest king among the asuras. In order to right the wrong, Vishnu took the twin avatars of Vamana and Tiruvikrama, in Mahabali's presence, when the latter was conducting a massive yagna and giving away alms.

Despite Sukrachariar's warning that Vamana was but none other than Vishnu Himself disguised as a short-statured Brahmin, Mahabali was genuinely affectionate in his welcome of Vamana, wishing to grant Him whatever He sought. When Vamana said He wanted only three feet of land for His feet, Mahabali readily granted the same. However, his entire kingdom measured only two feet, as Vamana had assumed the form of Tiruvikrama. Unwavering in his faith, the king quickly bent down his head, inviting Him to take the third step. Pleased with Mahabali's faith in Him as well as upholding the principles of charity, Vishnu granted Mahabali the boon of visiting his lands once a year, to see his beloved subjects, until eternity. "On the day of Tiruvonam star falling in the month of Avani, you will come down to earth and be received by everyone with love and fanfare and your people will celebrate the event as Onam, wherever they are," said Vishnu, blessing him.

INBRIEF

Amazon completes acquisition of NBFC firm axio

E-commerce firm Amazon on Thursday said it has completed the acquisition of non-banking financial services firm axio, formerly Capital Float, after getting approval from the Reserve Bank of India. axio has been engaged with Amazon to facilitate buy-now-pay-later service to customers of the e-commerce firm for more than six years. "Amazon today announced the completion of its acquisition of axio (formerly Capital Float)," the e-commerce firm said. PTI

No transactions, settlements in G-Sec, forex on Sept. 8: RBI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that there would be no transactions and settlements in government securities, forex and money markets on September 8, 2025 as the Maharashtra Government had declared the day as a public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act. The holiday on September 5 declared earlier has been cancelled and the G-secs, forex and money markets will be operational on September 5, 2025, it said.

Japan's SoftBank trims stake in India's Ola Electric to 15.7%

Japan's SoftBank Group has lowered its shareholding in Ola Electric to 15.68% from 17.83%, after selling a 2.15% stake over two months, an exchange filing showed. SoftBank, Ola Electric's second-largest shareholder after founder Bhavish Aggarwal, sold a total of 94.9 million shares in a series of transactions from July to September. It did not disclose the sale price. Ola Electric has seen a sharp pickup in trading volumes in recent sessions. REUTERS

Markets fail to mirror optimism on GST rate structure revision

Although managements and leaders of consumer firms were upbeat over the revision in tax slabs, indices remained almost flat on Thursday

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Stock markets stayed flat even as the Union government revised Goods and Services Tax regime with major consumer, and auto stocks in lower slabs.

The benchmark Nifty and Sensex closed 0.07% and 0.19% to 24,734.30 and 80,718.01 points on Thursday.

The indices opened on the day's high and continued on a downward path throughout the day.

Although management and leaders of consumer companies cheered the change in rate structure, the stock indices failed to reflect the optimism.

Nifty auto increased the most, closing 0.85% over the previous close. In fact, 10 of the 17 sectoral indices of Nifty declined, with some such as Nifty PSU Bank closing almost 1% lower. Experts were divided on the reason behind the caution among investors. "The marginally high intraday return indicates that the development may have already been factored into prices, leading to profit booking post the announcement," said Rajesh Bhosale, Equity Technical Analyst, Angel One. Pranay Aggarwal, CEO of Stoxkart, said, "Markets typically respond to measures that directly influence earnings visibility or consumption demand. As these were largely unchanged, the Street remained cautious."

Tepid response: Ten of the 17 sectoral indices of Nifty declined, with some such as Nifty PSU Bank closing almost 1% lower. REUTERS

'GST 2.0 may escalate costs for firms, but do good for earnings'

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The revision of Goods and Services Tax (GST) slabs will have a short-term increase in cost for corporate India in the second and third quarters of fiscal 2026, as companies will have to reclassify inventory and bear the transition impact while complying with the new rates.

"Companies must get regulatory clarity and re-evaluate goods/services classification keeping in mind the new slabs, and many sectors need to review inventory for correct reclassification including updated billing/invoicing systems," said Manmeet Kaur, Partner at Karanjawala & Co.

This means companies would incur costs to shift to the new regime.

"The compliance costs also include the cost of litigation as hearings in the Appellate Tribunal would begin in December and go on till June,"said Shankey Agrawal, Partner - BMR Legal. The costs are expected to show up in Q2 and Q3 of fiscal 2026, Mr. Agrawal said.

Anti-profiteering rules have been discontinued, therefore businesses would be well-advised to still pass on genuine tax savings to customers in line with the spirit of the law, he added. Anti-profiteering rules ensure the effect of a cost reduction from GST is passed on to the end consumer.

> Companies must get regulatory clarity and re-evaluate goods/services classification keeping in mind the new slabs
>
> **MANMEET KAUR,**
> Partner at Karanjawala & Co

The GST regime change comes amidst continuously disappointing quarterly earnings in corporate India. While changes in the GST structure are intended to spur consumption demand, simplify taxation and ease compliance burden in the long term, the costs will show up in the short term, experts said.

'EPS will grow'

While compliance costs are expected to increase, economists are positive about the impact of GST on revenue and earnings. "The primary reason for the under performance of the market in the past year is weak domestic growth. Earnings have grown by single digits for five straight quarters amid weak domestic demand. With these policies in place, we expect growth to accelerate Q4 CY25 onwards. Consensus expects earnings per share (EPS) to grow 14% YoY in 2026, and in our view the policies supporting growth along with a favourable base have eased the risks of earnings downgrades and set the stage for foreign investors to return," HSBC Global Investment Research said in a note.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	80,718	0.19
US Dollar	88.12	-0.11
Gold	1,06,070	-0.93
Brent oil	67.05	-1.22

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2278.80	-9.90
Adani Ports	1328.20	-4.20
Apollo Hosp	7900.00	164.00
Asian Paints	2568.60	14.70
Axis Bank	1050.40	-4.30
Bajaj Auto	9071.00	-45.00
Bajaj Finserv	2002.20	36.10
Bajaj Finance	934.75	38.45
Bharat Elec	372.50	-6.20
Bharti Airtel	1880.40	-3.50
Cipla	1577.80	-0.60
Coal India	391.45	1.65
Dr Reddys Lab	1253.00	-9.20
Eicher Motors	6425.00	53.50
Eternal Ltd.	326.25	0.15
Grasim Ind	2809.80	28.40
HCL Tech	1443.30	-22.80
HDFC Bank	961.25	6.80
HDFC Life	754.25	-22.20
Hero MotoCorp	5351.00	2.00
Hindalco	739.05	-3.90
Hind Unilever	2666.60	1.90
ICICI Bank	1405.50	8.50
IndusInd Bank	754.85	-13.25
Infosys	1463.00	-16.10
ITC	415.90	4.15
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	309.45	-4.25
JSW Steel	1072.40	0.20
Kotak Bank	1949.70	-10.50
L&T	3592.60	-8.20
M&M	3481.50	195.50
Maruti Suzuki	14662.00	-265.00
NestleIndia	1212.60	17.80
NTPC	330.05	-4.20
ONGC	235.72	-3.35
PowerGrid Corp	281.80	-4.25
Reliance Ind	1359.30	-13.30
SBI Life	1791.10	-19.60
State Bank	809.40	-2.75
Shriram Finance Ltd.	585.80	-0.50
Sun Pharma	1582.30	3.60
TataConsumerProduct	1071.10	-33.30
Tata Motors	687.50	-4.55
Tata Steel	166.81	-1.04
TCS	3095.70	-1.80
Tech Mahindra	1500.40	-7.80
Titan	3691.10	0.50
Trent Ltd.	5529.00	50.00
UltraTech Cement	12651.00	-82.00
Wipro	244.97	-4.59

Renewable energy industry sees boost to domestic manufacturing

Saptaparno Ghosh
NEW DELHI

The GST Council's recommendation to reduce the taxation rate on renewable energy devices relating to solar, wind and biogas, and on parts required to manufacture them, from 12% to 5%, has been welcomed by the industry as a step towards spurring domestic manufacturing by easing capital expenditure.

Furthermore, industry associations stipulate this may translate to potentially lower tariffs for consumers.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Subrahmanyam Pulipaka, CEO at the industry body National Solar Energy Federation of India (NSEFI) said the move was a "positive step" and adhered to a long-standing request of the industry for a return to status quo.

Vaishnaw inaugurates TDK li-ion battery unit

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Thursday inaugurated a lithium-ion battery plant of Japanese firm TDK Corporation in Haryana, at initial investment of ₹3,000 crore. PTI

Amid U.S. tariff lows, Guwahati Tea Auction Centre posts high growth

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

Amid the U.S. tariff lows, the Guwahati Tea Auction Centre (GTAC) has recorded a new high.

GTAC, the world's largest auction centre for CTC (crush, tear, and curl) or granular tea, and a major hub for the global tea trade, registered an "impressive growth" in sales during April-August 2025.

Dinesh Bihani, secretary of Guwahati Tea Auction Buyers' Association, said 76.94 million kg of tea was sold during this period. The volume included 72.70 million kg of CTC and dust teas at an average price of ₹223.30 per kg, and 4.24 million kg of orthodox or leafy teas at an average price of ₹279.08 per kg.

76.94 million kg of tea was sold during April-August 2025.

In 2024, 62.11 million kg of CTC and dust teas were sold at ₹252 per kg, and 2.18 million kg of orthodox teas were sold at ₹267.88 per kg. In 2023, the corresponding figures were 56.85 million kg at ₹205.37 per kg and 1.23 million kg at ₹221.6 per kg. "A year-on-year analysis highlights a consistent upward trajectory in volumes. CTC and dust volumes rose by 9.25% in 2024 over 2023, followed by a further 16.39% increase in 2025. Orthodox teas showed stronger momentum, growing by 77.24% in 2024 and nearly doubling again with a 94.5% increase in 2025," Mr. Bihani said.

GTAC officials said the tea crop is expected to increase by 20-25% during the current calendar year.

Centre re-starts retail sale of onions

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The retail sale of onions is being started in Delhi, Mumbai and Ahmedabad

The "calibrated and targeted disposal" of onions from the buffer stock is an integral part of government's efforts to control food inflation and maintain stable price regime, Union Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said here on Thursday inaugurating the retail sale of onions at a rate of ₹24 for a kilogram through the outlets of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) and the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Ltd (NCCF).

Mr. Joshi said keeping food inflation under control is a priority of Government and various direct interventions through price stabilisation measures have played important role in bringing down inflation rate in recent month.

The retail sale of onions is being started in Delhi, Mumbai and Ahmedabad through outlets and mobile vans of NCCF, NAFED and Kendriya Bhandar and also through distribution partners of NAFED and NCCF.

Modi, Wong inaugurate phase two of PSA Mumbai

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Singapore counterpart Lawrence Wong on Thursday virtually inaugurated Bharat Mumbai Container Terminal Phase-Two (PSA Mumbai Phase-Two) developed by Singapore's PSA International at the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) in Navi Mumbai.

PSA Mumbai is now poised to become India's largest container terminal with the doubling of annual handling capacity to 4.8 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs).

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Office of The Superintending Engineer (RDSS)
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Regd. Office: Vidyut Bhawan, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur 302005

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited from eligible bidders for Consultancy Services for assisting and supporting in Project Management of Feeder Segregation and DA-JGUA works to Jaipur Discom under "Revamped Reforms-Linked Results-Based Distribution Sector Scheme" against TN – 609. Participating bidders can download complete set of bidding documents from e-procurement portal **http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** from 02.09.2025 at 9.00 A.M. onwards. End Date/Time for receipt of online bids through e-procurement portal is 17.09.2025 up to 05.00 P.M. For further details regarding Works, Tender Notifications & Specifications please visit website **http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in & http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvvnl UBN: VVN2526SLOB00416**

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TENDER ENQUIRY No.: QQ-1341/PO-C&S/dt.04.09.2025

Chief Purchase Officer/ MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd floor, Multistorey Building, The Mall, Patiala, invites E-Tender for procurement of 3Cx35sq.mm-864KM & 3Cx185sq.mm-84KM 11KV HT XLPE Screened Armoured cable, ISI marked as per tender specification no. QQ-1341/PO/C&S. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from **05.09.2025** onwards.

NOTE: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

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No. AVVNL/SE (TW) /XEN (TW-II)/AEN(TW-I)/NIT/PMA/TN-456/D. 1012 Date : 01/09/2025

Short Term NIT

'E Bids in two parts (Techno Commercial bid and Price Bid) are invited from eligible contractors/bidders for"Appointment of Project Management Agency(PMA) for assisting and supporting project management to Ajmer Discom for additional feeder segregation works (TN-109,TN-111 to TN-113, TN-116, TN-117, TN-142 to TN-152 ,TN-154 to TN-169) and DA-JGUA scheme(TN-153) approved under RDSS scheme."

All the details regarding tender is available at our website **www.avvnl.com and www.eproc.rajathan.gov.in.** In future corrigendum/extension, if any shall be published only at website **www.avvnl.com and www.eproc.rajathan.gov.in.**

UBN No. : AVV2526SLOB00349 Superintending Engineer (TW)
Raj.Samwad/C/25/9343 AVVNL, Ajmer

THE HINDU GROUP
SPORTSTAR
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A SHOT AT REDEMPTION

Read all about how India's men and women hockey teams look to turn heartbreak into hope at the **Asia Cup 2025.**

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POSTER
DEWALD BREVIS
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BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, online item rate tenders are invited through e-Tendering for the following work:

Title of work	**Construction of Compound Wall for the Land acquired at Tumakuru (Phase-1) - Civil works**
e-Tender Notice No.	**CMG/ISRO-HQ/C/C/07/P/TUM/ 2025-26 Dtd: 04.09.2025**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 711.31 Lakhs**
Period of Completion	**Twelve (12) Months**
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	**From: 18:10 Hrs on 04.09.2025 To: 23:59 Hrs on 24.09.2025**
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	**Up to 15:30 Hrs on 26.09.2025**
Due date and time for opening of tenders (Technical Bid)	**16:00 Hrs onwards on 29.09.2025**
EMD	**Rs. 14,22,620/-**

For eligibility criteria and other details, interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) on websites **https://www.isro.gov.in/Tenders.html** and **https://www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** at tender free view. Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) and Tender documents may be downloaded from e-tendering website **https://www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Head CMD, ISRO HQ

WASHINGTON

Texas lawmakers pass legislation to curb mailing of abortion pills

AP

Texas Senators passed legislation allowing citizens to sue people who mail abortion pills into the Republican-led U.S. State, clearing the way for the Bill to be signed into law. The move is the latest in Texas to restrict abortion access since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the 1973 Roe v Wade ruling. AFP

BEIJING

Chinese Navy says it conducted 'routine patrol' in South China Sea

AFP

China's Navy conducted a "routine patrol" in the South China Sea on Wednesday, a spokesperson for its Southern Theatre Command said on Thursday. The statement came as the Philippines concluded on Wednesday joint maritime exercises with Australia, Canada, and the U.S. in the South China Sea. REUTERS

DHAKA

New clause bars candidates from contesting Bangladesh elections

AFP

Bangladesh's interim government on Thursday said it incorporated a new clause in the International Crimes (Tribunal) Act 1973 to disqualify a candidate from contesting an election if a chargesheet is filed against the person for committing crimes against humanity. The law will also apply to those applying for government jobs. PTI

ROME

Italian fashion icon and luxury king Giorgio Armani dead at 91

REUTERS

Italian luxury king Giorgio Armani, head of a high-end lifestyle empire and one of fashion's most famous names, has died aged 91, sparking tributes to a legend. The best-known contemporary designer, Armani opened his fashion house in Milan in 1975, quickly rising to the top of the industry and going on to dress the stars. AFP

Nepal bans Facebook, X, YouTube, and 23 other social media platforms

K.P. Sharma Oli's govt. cites the companies' non-compliance with registration rules as reason behind decision; free speech advocates say the move is less about regulation and more about silencing dissent and tightening control over online speech

Sanjeev Satgainya
KATHMANDU

The K.P. Sharma Oli government on Thursday decided to ban as many as 26 social media platforms, including Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, and YouTube, citing their failure to meet the deadline to comply with registration requirements in Nepal.

Issuing a public notice, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology said it "has ordered the Nepal Telecommunication Authority to make inactive all non-registered social media sites until they are registered."

Time up: A seven-day deadline set for social media platforms to register in Nepal had expired on Wednesday night. ISTOCKPHOTO

After repeated requests, the government again, on August 28, set a seven-day deadline for social media platforms to register in Nepal. That deadline expired on Wednesday night.

On Wednesday afternoon, Gajendra Thakur, spokesperson for the Ministry, said that the government was hopeful social media companies would approach them before midnight. If they did not, he said, the government would act accordingly. As none approached, a meeting on Thursday then made the decision to enforce the ban.

Free speech advocates have objected to the move, saying it is less about regulation and more about silencing dissenting voices. They believe the government's registration conditions, which include stringent oversight and control measures, may have been deemed unrealistic and intrusive by many social media companies, likely prompting their refusal to register.

The government has based its decision to ban the sites on a recent Supreme Court ruling and its own Directives Relating to the Regulation for Usage of Social Media. This is not the first time Nepal has banned a social media platform. In November 2023, the then Pushpa Kamal Dahal government blocked TikTok for nine months, prompting criticism.

(Sanjeev Satgainya is an independent journalist based in Kathmandu)

Tariffs on India are for buying Russian oil, Trump tells court

Press Trust of India
NEW YORK/WASHINGTON

The Trump administration has told the U.S. Supreme Court that it imposed tariffs against India for purchasing Russian energy products "to deal with a preexisting national emergency regarding Russia's war in Ukraine" and as a "crucial aspect" of the President's push for peace in the country.

Mr. Trump has imposed 25% reciprocal tariffs on India and an additional 25% levies for Delhi's purchases of Russian oil, bringing the total duties imposed on India to 50%, with effect from August 27.

In a 251-page appeal to the Supreme Court, submitted on Wednesday, the Trump administration said

Donald Trump

that "the President recently authorised IEEPA (International Emergency Economic Powers Act) tariffs against India for purchasing Russian energy products, to deal with a preexisting national emergency regarding Russia's war in Ukraine, as a crucial aspect of his push for peace in that war-torn country."

It said that due to IEEPA tariffs, six major trading partners and the 27-nation European Union have already entered into framework deals with the U.S., accepting tariff arrangements heavily recalibrated in America's favour and agreeing to make approximately $2 trillion of purchases and investment in the U.S.' economy.

Last week, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in Washington, in a 7-to-4 ruling, said the sweeping tariffs imposed by Mr. Trump on countries around the world are illegal. However, it also gave the administration time till October 14 to file a petition for a writ of certiorari in the Supreme Court, which the Trump administration did on Wednesday.

At least 44 killed in Israeli fire as Gaza death toll tops 64,000

Agence France-Presse
Associated Press
GAZA CITY/DEIR AL-BALAH

Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli forces killed at least 44 people on Thursday, including 25 in Gaza City where the military has increased bombardments ahead of a planned offensive.

Nearly two years into the devastating conflict, Israel has built up its forces in recent days, with troops operating on the outskirts of Gaza City, the Palestinian territory's largest urban centre.

The United Nations estimates that nearly one million people live in and around Gaza City in the territory's north, where it has declared famine.

Israel has built up its forces in recent days, with troops operating on the outskirts of Gaza City

More than 64,000 Palestinians have been killed in the Gaza Strip, local health officials said on Thursday. Gaza's Health Ministry said that 64,231 Palestinians have been killed since the start of the war. The latest update includes around 400 who were presumed missing but whose deaths it says have been confirmed. It doesn't say how many of those killed in the war were militants or civilians.

Little relief

An Afghan boy injured in the 6.0 magnitude earthquake that struck eastern Afghanistan on Sunday, receives treatment at a hospital in Jalalabad on Wednesday. The toll from the quake sharply rose to 2,200 making it the deadliest in decades to hit the country. AP

26 allies have pledged troops for Ukraine after war, says Macron

Associated Press
KYIV

French President Emmanuel Macron said on Thursday that 26 of Ukraine's allies have pledged to deploy troops as a "reassurance force" for the war-torn country once fighting ends in the conflict with Russia.

Speaking after a meeting of the "coalition of the willing" in Paris, Mr. Macron said the countries had committed to deploying troops in Ukraine – or to maintaining a presence on land, at sea, or in the air – to help guarantee the country's securityafter a ceasefire is achieved.

Earlier on Thursday, Mr. Macron and other European leaders met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and the the U.S. envoy for peace talks, Steve Witkoff, to discuss ways of ensuring long-term military support and continued U.S. backing for Ukraine once the conflict ends. Mr. Zelenskyy also held a closed-door meeting with Mr. Witkoff.

Emmanuel Macron

Rights body takes note of Sri Lanka mass graves

Press Trust of India
COLOMBO

The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) said there exists a reasonable likelihood that the burials at the Chemmani mass grave in the north were unlawful and a result of extrajudicial killings.

"There is a reasonable likelihood that the burials were unlawful and pursuant to extrajudicial killings," said HRCSL in a report issued on Wednesday following their visit to the site on August 3 and 4.

Early this year, at Chemmani in Jaffna, during a routine development work, over 200 skeletal remains were discovered.

Xi, Kim vow deeper ties between China and North Korea

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

Chinese President Xi Jinping and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un pledged mutual support and enhanced cooperation during talks in Beijing on the sidelines of festivities commemorating the end of the Second World War, state media said on Thursday.

Mr. Xi and Mr. Kim, along with top officials from their countries, met at Beijing's Great Hall of the People a day after Mr. Kim attended a Chinese military parade alongside other foreign leaders, including Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Mr. Kim is making a rare trip outside North Korea.

Mr. Xi highlighted the "traditional friendship" between China and North Korea and pledged to consolidate and boost relations.

"This position will not change regardless of how the international situation evolves," Mr. Xi told Mr. Kim.

China has been North Korea's biggest trading partner and aid provider, though questions have lingered about the strength of their bilateral relationship.

Mr. Kim said North Korea was ready to boost exchanges with China at all levels and "deepen mutually beneficial economic and trade cooperation".

Pak., China agree to work closely on economic corridor as Sharif meets Xi

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Thursday met Chinese Premier Li Qiang in Beijing and the two sides reaffirmed their resolve to further strengthen their iron-clad, all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

During the meeting, the two sides also agreed to continue working closely on the next phase of upgraded China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC 2.0), which includes five new corridors, state-run Radio Pakistan reported.

Positive trajectory

"During their warm and friendly meeting, the two leaders expressed their satisfaction at the positive trajectory of Pakistan-China relations," it said. Prime Minister Sharif expressed his "deepest gratitude to the Chinese leadership and nation for their unflinching support to Pakistan's territorial integrity, sovereignty and socio-economic development," it said.

Aligning interests: Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping, Kim Jong-un and Shehbaz Sharif in Beijing on Wednesday. REUTERS

Lauding China's impressive transformation under President Xi Jinping's visionary leadership, Mr. Sharif said that Pakistan wanted to emulate China's successes and build a stronger and closer Pakistan-China community with a shared future.

Mr. Sharif highlighted the significant contribution of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor – a flagship project of Mr. Xi's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) – in Pakistan's socio-economic development in the past decade, and stressed the need for early implementation of the Main Line-1 railway project and Karakorum Highway realignment and operationalisation of the Gwadar Port.

The Pakistan Prime Minister identified agriculture, mines and minerals, textile, industrial sector and IT as priority areas for mutually beneficial economic collaboration.

China denies claims about conspiring against U.S.

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

China defended on Thursday its decision to invite the leaders of Russia and North Korea to the Second World War commemorations, which President Donald Trump accused them of using to conspire against the United States.

Beijing's Foreign Ministry said on Thursday "foreign guests" had been invited to commemorate 80 years since the end of World War II.

"China's development of diplomatic relations with any country is never directed against any third party," the Ministry spokesperson said.

FULTONSPEAK

'At the end of the event you either get the result you want or go home'

R. V. MOORTHY

Whatever happens, happens, it doesn't stop the way we are creating chances and getting it right in the moment. I can't tell you how that works in one game and doesn't work in another, it's literally life's biggest mystery. At the end of the event you either get the result you want or go home — India hockey coach Craig Fulton

GRAND OPENING

Gukesh starts with a crushing win; Puranik outwits Divya

FIDE

D. Gukesh began with a crushing victory over Etienne Bacrot in the first round of the FIDE Grand Swiss in Samarkand. Top seed R. Praggnanandhaa was held to a draw by Jeffery Xiong while defending champion Vidit Gujrathi beat German Alexander Donchenko and Abhimanyu Puranik beat Divya Deshmukh.

SOLID EFFORTS

Zaman and Abrar shine as Pakistan outplays UAE

AFP

Fakhar Zaman scored 77 as Pakistan posted 171 for five in 20 overs before leg-spinner Abrar Ahmed (four for nine) stifled UAE to set up a 31-run win in a T20I tri-series match in Sharjah on Thursday.
The scores: Pakistan 171/5 in 20 overs (Zaman 77, Mohd. Nawaz 37 n.o) bt UAE 140/7 in 20 overs (Sharafu 68, Abrar 4/9).

MAIDEN SUCCESS

Malik leads from the front as Titans beat Pink Panthers

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Telugu Titans, led ably by skipper Vijay Malik, tasted its first success in PKL 12 with a 37-32 win over Jaipur Pink Panthers in Visakhapatnam on Thursday. In another match, Dabang Delhi beat Puneri Paltan via the season's first golden raid (2-0) after the scores were tied 28-28 in regulation time and 5-5 in the tie-breaker.

India inches closer to final after emphatic victory

The home team proves too good for Malaysia in its second Super 4s game; China stuns holder Korea to keep hopes of a top-two finish alive; Bangladesh thrashes Kazakhstan in a playoff match

ASIA CUP

Uthra Ganesan
RAJGIR

Indian men took a big step towards redemption and a spot in the final of the Asia Cup hockey with a convincing 4-1 win against Malaysia in its second Super 4s match at the Rajgir Sports Complex here on Thursday.

The lessons from Wednesday's disappointment were learnt along with a tweaking of the players' roles.

Plenty to rejoice: Manpreet led India's turnaround by scoring the equaliser off a penalty corner after Malaysia had taken the lead as early as the second minute while Vivek completed the tally in the third quarter. R.V. MOORTHY

Sitting pretty

The result took India to top of the table with four points with China second on three, ahead of Malaysia on goal difference.

It will also hopefully ease the pressure on the team and coach Craig Fulton ahead of the final clash with China as a draw will be enough for the host to finish in the top-two.

It wasn't the best of starts when Shafiq Hassan dodged past Sanjay to enter and shoot past Krishan Pathak, unsighted by Sumit, in the second minute. The Malaysians tried to press ahead, constantly cutting in from the left.

The little things that didn't work for India against Korea, including the connections inside the circle, came together on the day. The build-up was patient, ground taken control of gradually, and the opposition pushed back into its own space. Abhishek was pulled back into a feeder role and Manpreet Singh pushed ahead.

Relentless

The pressure paid off in the second quarter with five back-to-back penalty corners in the 16th minute, the last of them resulting in a rebound slotted in by Manpreet for the equaliser.

Two minutes later, Abhishek's long pass to Shilanand Lakra was passed to Sukhjeet Singh, who made it 2-1.

India was taking control of both the game and its pace even as Malaysia struggled to find any space.

Another build up in the 24th minute saw Sanjay's long aerial from the left to Hardik Singh in the middle of the ground, putting Dilpreet Singh through before Lakra finished it off, sliding to deflect into the net, making it 3-1.

Resumption saw Malaysia try and regroup and earn its only PC of the game, only for Pathak to stretch high and save.

Manpreet combining with Sumit was effective, creating a PC and several scoring chances, one of them finally finding Vivek Sagar Prasad in front of the goal to simply deflect and make it 4-1, all but sealing the win. In the other Super 4s game, missed PCs let down defending champion Korea yet again as China, despite two of its key players suspended for earlier infringements, won 3-0. Bangladesh had an easy 5-1 win against Kazakhstan in a playoff match.

The lessons from Wednesday's disappointing draw against Korea were learnt along with a tweaking of the players' roles Malaysia could earn only one penalty corner and it was saved by Pathak

The results:

Super 4s: China 3 (Benhai Chen 13, 43, Jiesheng Gao 43) bt Korea 0.

India 4 (Manpreet Singh 17, Sukhjeet Singh 19, Shilanand Lakra 24, Vivek Sagar Prasad 38) bt Malaysia 1 (Shafiq Hassan 2).

5-8: Bangladesh 5 (Ashraful Islam 10, 23, Roman Sarkar 28, 33, Tayab Ali 34) bt Kazakhstan 1 (Altynbek Aitkaliyev 38).

Upset: China blanked Korea to pick up three points. R.V. MOORTHY

Keen tussle: Both teams failed to find the back of the net. AIFF

India to play for third-place match

CAFA NATIONS CUP

Press Trust of India
HISOR (TAJIKISTAN)

The Indian football team secured a berth for the CAFA Nations Cup third-place match on head-to-head record after tournament co-host Tajikistan and Iran played out a 2-2 draw here on Thursday.

India, which was held to a goalless draw by Afghanistan earlier in the day, had beaten Tajikistan 2-1 in its tournament opener and that result proved to be vital for Khalid Jamil's men.

India and Tajikistan ended with four points each, but the Blue Tigers finished second in Group-B on the basis of head-to-head result.

India will play its third-place match on Monday.

Its opponent will be known on Friday after the completion of the two Group-A matches in Tashkent.

Mohammad Mohebi put Iran on course with his twin strikes (38 & 47) but Shahrom Samiev (58) and Zoir Dzhuraboev (78) brought Tajikistan back into the contest.

In the early kick-off, the Indian team could not make use of the chances that came its way. Afghanistan started the game on the offensive, but India created more clear-cut chances in the opening exchanges on the counter.

Jagadeesan and Ruturaj's tons put South and West in the ascendancy

DULEEP TROPHY

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

N. Jagadeesan (148 batting, 260b, 13x4, 2x6) was at his dogged best, powering South Zone to a comfortable 297 for three in 81 overs against North Zone on the opening day of their Duleep Trophy semifinal here on Thursday.

On a BCCI Centre of Excellence Ground (1) pitch, which did not offer much help to the bowlers, Jagadeesan stood firm for a little over six hours.

The Tamil Nadu batter and his opening partner Tanmay Agarwal (43, 99b, 5x4) saw off the new ball expertly. When the afternoon sun peeped out in an otherwise cloudy day, Jagadeesan looked for the scoring shots. Anything full from spinners Nishant Sindhu and Mayank Dagar were casually lifted over the in-field for boundaries.

Jagadeesan, who recently earned his maiden Test call-up as a replacement for an injured Rishabh Pant, took full advantage of an early reprieve. Batting on nine, he had nicked one from pacer Anshul Kamboj, only for a no-ball to be declared.

184, and 148 batting! Ruturaj and Jagadeesan were in scintillating form. K. MURALI KUMAR

No. 3 Devdutt Padikkal (57, 71b, 7x4) looked fluent, using his feet well and finding the gaps in the field. A loose swipe outside off to Kamboj, however, brought his downfall.

In the other semifinal, Ruturaj Gaikwad (184, 206b, 25x4, 1x6) stole the limelight to guide West Zone to 363 for six in 87 overs against Central Zone.

Ruturaj walked in with his side in mild bother at 10 for two, ahead of Shreyas Iyer.

The Maharashtra batter thrived in the company of Aarya Desai (39), Shreyas (25) and Tanush Kotian (65 batting, 121b, 5x4) to reach his eighth First Class century. Ruturaj looked set for a maiden double hundred until he was stumped by off-spinner Saransh Jain.

Shreyas' hopes of making a point to the national selectors came undone with a poor stroke.

Attempting a late cut to a sharp, straight delivery from left-arm pacer Khaleel Ahmed, Shreyas lost his stumps.

Yashasvi Jaiswal (4) also disappointed, falling leg-before to Khaleel in the first over.

The scores:

At BCCI CoE Ground (1): South Zone 297/3 in 81 overs (Tanmay Agarwal 43, N. Jagadeesan 148 batting, Devdutt Padikkal 57) vs North Zone; **Toss:** North.

At BCCI CoE Ground (2): West Zone 363/6 in 87 overs (Aarya Desai 39, Ruturaj Gaikwad 184, Tanush Kotian 65 batting) vs Central Zone; **Toss:** West.

Ruturaj happy to bat at No. 4 in the longer format of the game

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Ruturaj. K. MURALI KUMAR

Ruturaj Gaikwad's 2025 IPL season was cut short after just five matches, when he was forced out due to an elbow injury. With the batter ruled out, Chennai Super Kings' captaincy duties went back to M.S. Dhoni.

Ruturaj watched from home as CSK had a poor campaign, becoming the first team to be eliminated from the tournament.

Ruturaj describes the nature of the injury – struck on the elbow when facing a pacer – as a "fluke". "There are some things which you cannot control. I had some good family time during the layoff. I enjoyed my time at home," Ruturaj said here on Thursday.

The 28-year-old is taking full control of his comeback graph, which began with a century for Maharashtra in the Buchi Babu tournament a couple of weeks ago. On Thursday, Ruturaj made a successful return to First Class cricket, striking a brilliant 184 for West Zone against Central Zone in the Duleep Trophy semifinal at the BCCI COE Ground (2).

Ruturaj stated that he has been working on his red-ball game, and easing into full match fitness. He is happy to bat at No. 4 in the longer format, as opposed to his preferred opening spot in white-ball cricket.

"When I first joined the Maharashtra team, there was only one spot available. Whenever there were two proper openers playing, I batted at No. 3. And now I feel really comfortable in the middle-order," Ruturaj said.

INBRIEF

EMMANUAL YOGINI

Uma replaces Yastika for Australia series, World Cup

Wicketkeeper-batter Uma Chetry was on Thursday drafted into India's squad for the upcoming ODI series against Australia and the Women's World Cup after Yastika Bhatia was ruled out with a knee injury. Yastika hurt her left knee during India's preparatory camp at Visakhapatnam, the BCCI said on Thursday. India will host Australia in a three-match ODI series from September 14 and will face co-host Sri Lanka in the World Cup opener at Guwahati on September 30.

UAE announces 17-member squad for Asia Cup

Fast bowler Matiullah Khan and spinner Simranjeet Singh were on Thursday included in a 17-member squad announced by hosts United Arab Emirates for the Asia Cup, which begins on September 9. The addition of Matiullah and Simranjeet is the only change in the existing UAE squad which is currently playing a tri-series along with Afghanistan and Pakistan in Sharjah.

The squad: Muhammad Waseem (Capt.), Alishan Sharafu, Aryansh Sharma (wk), Asif Khan, Dhruv Parashar, Ethan D' Souza, Haider Ali, Harshit Kaushik, Junaid Siddique, Matiullah Khan, Muhammad Farooq, Muhammad Jawadullah, Muhammad Zohaib, Rahul Chopra (wk), Rohid Khan, Simranjeet Singh and Saghir Khan.

IGPL unveils a 10-tournament calendar, assures guaranteed money

The inaugural event will be conducted in Chandigarh from September 10; other tournaments are scheduled to be held in Greater Noida, Pune, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Jamshedpur, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Dubai and Colombo

GOLF

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

The Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL) unveiled a full swing of 10 tournaments spread over the next four months, through its co-founder and brand ambassador, cricketer Yuvraj Singh, here on Thursday.

The first tournament will start on September 10, at the Chandigarh golf club. The tournaments will be played over three days each with 36 men, 12 women, apart from a few amateurs.

The key line as mentioned by the CEO of IGPL, Uttam Singh Mundy was, "there will be no cut, and there will be guaranteed money".

The other tournaments are scheduled to be staged in Greater Noida, Pune, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Jamshedpur, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Dubai, Colombo.

Moreover, there will be a regular Asian Tour joint sanctioned tournament at Kensville Golf Resort from November 27 to 30.

Elite gathering: S.S.P. Chawrasia, Cho Minn Thant, Uttam Singh Mundy, Yuvraj Singh, Shiv Kapur, Champika Sayal and Romit Bose at the IGPL launch. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"I am excited to be part of this. Golf needs to grow. It is such an amazing sport. The golfer's life is so hard. You pay all your bills, and you have to make the cut to earn money. Luckily, in cricket we were getting paid for whatever we played. IGPL will give a lot of confidence to the youngsters. I hope IGPL grows the way IPL changed the dynamics of Indian and world cricket," said Yuvraj, who also supports golfers through his YouWeCan Foundation.

Benefit cricketers

A keen golfer, Yuvraj suggested that the Indian cricketers would benefit greatly by unwinding with a round of golf. "Any sport that helps you relax, is good for the body, and more fruitful for the mind," he said.

Recalling the times when golfers used to travel by train, sleeping on their kit bag, with no guarantee of earning money, Shiv Kapur appreciated the idea that IGPL would give "financial security" to the golfers.

The secretary general of the WGAI, Champika Sayal, called it an "awakening" of golf, and that it augured well for the future of the sport, especially the women. She wanted the girls to emerge more confident and progress towards the international arena.

The Tour Commissioner of the Asian Tour, Cho Minn Thant, who appreciated the "holistic vision" in the formation of IGPL, announced that the top four players would get entry into the Qualifying School finals of the Asian Tour. "IGPL will make a difference to the sport. It is innovative, inclusive and inspiring," asserted Mundy.

Goa to host India's AFC Asian Cup qualifier

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) on Thursday announced that Goa will host the country's AFC Asian Cup final round qualifier Group C match against Singapore on October 14.

The AIFF posted the decision on its social media pages.

The two teams are scheduled to play each other twice in October. The away leg will be held on October 9 at the National Stadium in Singapore.

Singapore currently top the group with a win and a draw while India lies at the bottom, having managed a draw and a loss from its two games so far.

LIVE TELECAST

Hockey: Women's Asia Cup, Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 9.45 a.m.; India vs Thailand, noon, 2.15 & 4.30 p.m.

PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 8 p.m.

T20I tri-series: UAE vs Afghanistan, FanCode, 8.30 p.m.

US Open: Star Sports 1, SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 8.30 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Saturday)

IPL tickets to become costlier after increased GST

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

IPL fans will have to shell out more for tickets next season with the government raising the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on admission to these games from 28% to 40% because the tickets come under the 'Luxury Goods' category.

Different classification

However, India's international games have been classified under other sporting events and would invite a lesser GST of 18% on tickets priced above ₹500.

Any tickets priced below ₹500 will be exempted from GST.

Nikin's half-century powers KSCA Secretary's XI

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Nikin Jose top-scored with 81 as KSCA Secretary's XI made 211 for the loss of seven wickets at stumps versus Gujarat on the opening day of their KSCA Dr. (Capt.) K. Thimmappiah Memorial Cricket Tournament encounter, at the Kini Sports Arena here on Thursday.

But the three matches at the Alur Grounds were all affected by overnight rain, with the first day's play in both the Mumbai-Assam and KSCA President's XI-Maharashtra contests, at Alur-1 and Alur-2 respectively, fully washed out. At Alur-3, less than 30 overs play was possible, with Madhya Pradesh making 77 for one against Tripura.

Nikin...coming good. FILE PHOTO

The scores: KSCA Secretary's XI 211/7 in 85.4 overs (Nikin Jose 81, Tushar Singh 42, Samit Dravid 45) vs. Gujarat.

Goa 211 in 62.2 overs (Abhinav Tejrana 74, Praful Hinge 4/32) vs. Vidarbha 39 for no loss in 13 overs.

Madhya Pradesh 77/1 in 29.5 overs vs. Tripura.

Chhattisgarh 187/6 in 68.1 overs (Sahban Khan 47 batting) vs. KSCA XI.

In Mysuru: KSCA Colts 140 in 41 overs (Aneeshwar Gautam 33) vs. Himachal Pradesh 134/1 in 39 overs (Ankush Bains 76 batting).

Andhra 257 in 83.5 overs (Revanth Reddy 101, Yara Sandeep 64, Ninad Rathwa 5/92) vs. Baroda 20/1 in six overs.

Third round of Natl. motorcycle championship from today

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

The third round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2025 will be held at the Madras International Circuit from September 5 to 7.

A card of 21 races across the six National Championship categories, besides the Petronas TVS One-Make Championship and the Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup, has been scheduled with 162 riders, representing 18 teams, in the fray even as the battle for championship points heats up.

Rohit stuns Aditya, enters semifinals

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Unseeded Rohith Gobinath upset second seed Aditya Mor 6-1, 6-2 to enter the boys' semifinal of the KSLTA ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors in Bengaluru on Thursday.

Other results (quarterfinals):

Girls: Deepshika Vinayagamurthy bt Srishti Kiran 6-1, 6-1; Aahan Aahan bt Aahida Singh, 6-3, 7-5; Aleena Farid bt Disha Kumar 6-2, 6-4; Snigdha Kanta bt Sree Syleswari Velmanikandan 4-6, 6-2, 7-6(4).

Boys: Rohith Gobinath bt Aditya Mor 6-1, 6-2; Adhiraj Thakur bt Dev Vipul Patel 6-1, 6-4; Ojas Mehlawat bt M. Vishal Vasudev 6-3, 6-2; Om Verma bt Thomas Coppi (Fra) 6-2, 6-2.

Big scalp: Rohith took out second seed Aditya in straight sets. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Amit Mishra. FILE PHOTO: K. PICHUMANI

Amit Mishra retires from all formats

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Veteran India leg-spinner Amit Mishra on Thursday announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, ending a career spanning more than two decades.

Having last played for India in 2017, the 42-year-old Haryana cricketer continued to feature in the IPL till the 2024 edition. Mishra confirmed his retirement to *PTI* over phone.

"I have decided to retire," said Mishra.

In a statement, Mishra said the decision was largely based on repeated injuries and the belief that the younger generation needed to take over.

Mishra represented India in 22 Tests, 36 ODIs and 10 T20s. His Test career yielded 76 wickets, while in ODIs he had 64 scalps.

He was a classical leg-break bowler who made his Test debut against Australia in 2008, five years after he made his India debut in an ODI against South Africa in 2003.

He remains the only bowler to take three hat-tricks in the IPL.

Industry giants to headline PlayCom Summit

Sports Bureau

Sportstar, a publication brought out by *The Hindu* Group, is joining hands with global consulting powerhouse, KPMG India, to co-host the inaugural edition of PlayCom 2025: Business of Sports Summit on September 12 and 13 at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

The Summit aims to harness the magazine's rich legacy of almost five decades in sports journalism to steer meaningful conversations on the growing role of sport as a driver of economic development and social transformation.

Best of many worlds

Supported by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, the Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation, the Government of Punjab, and JK Tyre, the two-day event will bring a diverse mix of leaders and changemakers from the worlds of sport, business and technology together under one roof.

The Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya and Indian Olympic Association president P.T. Usha will headline the event.

Mansukh Mandaviya and P.T. Usha.

Rani Rampal and Rajah Chaudhry.

Also addressing the Summit will be Nikhil Bansal, Head of Industry, Gaming & eServices, Google India; Sanjay Adesara, Chief Business Officer, Adani Sportsline, and Siddharth Sharma, Head of Content, Sports - JioStar.

Going global

Adding to the impressive line-up are key figures from the Indian sports ecosystem, including Deepak Raj, country head, HYROX INDIA and Rajah Chaudhry, head of strategy, Asia Pac and Country Head, India, at the National Basketball Association (NBA).

Standout feature

A major highlight of PlayCom 2025 will be its Innovation Expo, designed as a showcase for homegrown ideas and ventures across the sports value chain – from equipment manufacturers and tech providers to data firms and franchise operators.

Champions Way to score in the main event

MYSURU: Champions Way, who has been prepared, is expected to score in the H.H. Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar Memorial Trophy (1,400m), the main event of the races to be held here on Friday (Sept. 5). False rails (width about 2m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 **VIRIJA PLATE** (1,100m), rated 00 to 25, 2-00 p.m.: 1. Nimble Spirit (5) S.G. Prasad 60, 2. Fashionista (1) Aleemuddin 58, 3. Meadow Flower (7) R. Shiva Kumar 58, 4. Miracle Honey (3) Ayaz Khan 58, 5. Armament (6) Abhishek Mhatre 56, 6. Alluring Beauty (2) Md. Imran Ashraf 55.5, 7. Mighty Prince (4) Salman Khan 53 and 8. D Golden Cup (8) Vinod Shinde 52.

1. NIMBLE SPIRIT, 2. ARMAMENT, 3. D GOLDEN CUP

2 **PUNE PLATE** (1,100m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 2-30: 1. Adalard (-) (-) 56, 2. Coorg Hills (2) Akash Agarwal 56, 3. Flash Back (4) S. Imran 56, 4. Larson (8) Salman Khan 56, 5. Midnight Blue (7) A.A. Vikrant 56, 6. Republican Star (6) Rayan 56, 7. Splendid Dream (1) Shreyas S 56, 8. Lev Ron (10) C. Umesh 54.5, 9. Natural Look (3) Ankit Pal 54.5 and 10. Salt N Pepper (5) N.B. Kuldeep 54.5.

1. SPLENDID DREAM, 2. MIDNIGHT BLUE, 3. REPUBLICAN STAR

3 **SOMANATHPUR PLATE (DIV. II),** (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 3-00: 1. Hasting Sunrise (3) R. Shiva Kumar 60, 2. Power Of Gold (1) Akshay K 60, 3. Zorawar (4) L.A. Rozario 60, 4. Gandolfini (6) Srinath 59.5, 5. Sarvottam (10) C. Umesh 59, 6. Carter (7) Rayan 58.5, 7. Davids Delight (5) Salman Khan 58.5, 8. Southern Dynasty (9) A. Baandal 58.5, 9. Anchorage (8) P. Sai Kumar 58, 10. Chinky Pinky (2) Aleemuddin 58, 11. Highland Dream (12) Hindu S 58 and 12. Verrazzano (11) Darshan 58.

1. POWER OF GOLD, 2. GANDOLFINI, 3. HIGHLAND DREAM

4 **J.H. FOLEY MEMORIAL TROPHY** (1,600m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. Pharazon (7) Arvind K 60, 2. Elfin Knight (12) Trevor 58, 3. Natural Tornado (2) Ankit Pal 57.5, 4. Ignorance Is Bliss (5) P. Sai Kumar 56, 5. Aquastic (8) Akshay K 55.5, 6. Mind Games (1) Dhanu S 55.5, 7. Sir Calculus (9) L.A. Rozario 55.5, 8. Winfield (11) Antony 54, 9. N R I Victory (6) Rayan 53.5, 10. Flashing Famous (10) S. Imran 53, 11. Small Dreams (4) Shreyas S 53 and 12. Unforgettable Star (3) Hindu S 50.

1. ELFIN KNIGHT, 2. AQUASTIC, 3. WINFIELD

5 **H.H. SRI KRISHNARAJA WADIYAR MEMORIAL TROPHY** (1,400m), 4-y-o & over, (Terms), 4-00: 1. African Gold (5) Akshay K 60, 2. Champions Way (6) Yash 60, 3. Mandarino (2) Arvind K 60, 4. Tom Cruiser (4) Srinath 57, 5. Global Influence (8) A.A. Vikrant 55.5, 6. Kalamitsi (1) Trevor 54, 7. Raise A Buck (3) Antony 54 and 8. Pure For Sure (7) A. Prakash 52.5.

1. CHAMPIONS WAY, 2. MANDARINO, 3. AFRICAN GOLD

6 **LAVASA PLATE** (1,400m), rated 60 & above, 4-30: 1. Heroism (3) Faiz 60, 2. Brave Trooper (6) Rajesh K 59.5, 3. Don Carlos (12) Trevor 59, 4. D Gold Star (9) Prabhu K 58.5, 5. Mazal Tov (11) Akshay K 58, 6. Spectacular (10) Kuldeep S 57.5, 7. Exuberance (4) Ayaz Khan 57, 8. Havelock Cruise (2) Akash Agarwal 56, 9. Invincible (8) J. Chinoy 55.5, 10. Star Concept (5) Darshan 55.5, 11. Crosswater (7) Antony 54.5 and 12. Silver Spring (1) S.G. Prasad 54.

1. DON CARLOS, 2. CROSSWATER, 3. MAZAL TOV

7 **SOMANATHPUR PLATE (DIV. I),** (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Blue Origin (7) Kuldeep S 62.5, 2. Sandal Queen (12) L.A. Rozario 61.5, 3. Walter (9) N.B. Kuldeep 61.5, 4. Carat Love (1) Mukesh K 60, 5. Monterio (4) Antony 60, 6. Ancient History (5) Chethan K 59.5, 7. Kallania (2) M. Prabhakaran 59, 8. One Nation (3) Srinath 59, 9. Goodfellow (6) A. Ramu 58.5, 10. Natural One (10) Ankit Pal 58.5, 11. Tigerking (11) H. Rahul 56 and 12. Always For You (8) Faiz 55.

1. MONTERIO, 2. CARAT LOVE, 3. ONE NATION

Day's best: **CHAMPIONS WAY**

Double: **ELFIN KNIGHT - DON CARLOS**

Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Mini Jkt: 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

Echoes Of Time claims the feature race on opening day

MYSURU: Pradeep Annaiah-trained Echoes Of Time (Antony up) won the Srikantadatta Narasimharaajawadiyar Memorial Multi Million (1,400m), the feature event of the opening day's races here on Thursday (Sept. 4). The winner is owned by Mr. Sultan Singh rep. Sohna Stud Farm Pvt Ltd.

THE RESULTS: 1. SEASON OPENER PLATE (1,400M): ABSOLUTE KATRINA (J. Chinoy) 1, Star Symphony (J. Paswan) 2, Turkoman (L.A. Rozario) 3 and Astrologer (A. Baandal) 4. Not run: Country's Fire. 4-3/4, 4 and 2-1/4. 1m, 26.13s. ₹21 (w), 11, 26 and 18 (p), SHP: 46, THP: 38, FP: 91, Q: 90, Trinella: 387/183, Exacta: 1,836/1,836. Favourite: Absolute Katrina. Owner: Mr. Raj Ramprasad Singh. Trainer: Joseph B. Awale.

2. VARADA PLATE (DIV. II), (1,100M): CODE OF HONOUR (Dhanu S) 1, Eagle Bluff (Kuldeep S) 2, Anushtubha (Antony) 3 and King Scarface (S.G. Prasad) 4. 2, Lnk and 2. 1m, 06.23s. ₹65 (w), 18, 81 and 12 (p), SHP: 230, THP: 40, FP: 2,688, Q: 2,008, Trinella: 8,072/1,383, Exacta: 42,623/18,267. Favourite: The Whispering. Owners: Mr. M.P. Akhil Raghav & Mr. M. Bobby. Trainer: M. Bobby.

3. B.K. KRISHNADEVARAJ URS MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200M): AGERA TIME (Antony) 1, Indian Brocade (Yash) 2, Efficacy (Shreyas S) 3 and Scent Of Rain (Trevor) 4. 1-1/2, 2-1/2 and 1-1/2. 1m, 22.96s. ₹22 (w), 14, 11 and 10 (p), SHP: 21, THP: 52, FP: 29, Q: 18, Trinella: 147/222, Exacta: 351/141. Favourite: Indian Brocade. Owner: Mr. Sultan Singh rep. Sohna Stud Farm Pvt Ltd. Trainer: Pradeep Annaiah.

4. H.H. SRI JAYACHAMARAJA WADIYAR **MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200M):** *Due to a false start, the Stewards declared the race null & void.*

5. SRIKANTADATTA NARASINHARAAJAWADIYAR MEMORIAL MULTI MILLION (1,400M): ECHOES OF

6. STAR OF MYSORE TROPHY (1,400M): PRETTY MOVE (Antony) 1, Drisana (A. Baandal) 2, Mystic Divine (Faiz) 3 and The Golden Sunrise (Srinath) 4. 2-1/2, 1/2 and 2. 1m, 24.78s. ₹16 (w), 10, 45 and 15 (p), SHP: 94, THP: 33, FP: 112, Q: 233, Trinella: 669/195, Exacta: 1,935/754. Favourite: Pretty Move. Owners: Mrs. Namrataa Rakesh, Mr. M.S. Kumaraswamy, Dr. Vijaya Simha Doreswamy & Mr. N. Swaroop Kumar. Trainer: Rakesh.

7. VARADA PLATE (DIV. I), (1,100M): OCEAN (Faiz) 1, Knotty In Blue (Afsar Khan) 2, Falcon Fury (Srinath) 3 and Phoenix Gold (A. Baandal) 4. 6-1/4, 2-1/2 and 2-1/4. 1m, 05.31s. ₹17 (w), 13, 14 and 14 (p), SHP: 78, THP: 50, FP: 486, Q: 148, Trinella: 621/274, Exacta: 8,518/3,650. Favourite: Ocean. Owners: Mrs. Preeti C. Shah, Mr. K.M. Shah, Ms. Tejaswini Kishor Mishal & Mr. Vinod M. Mathurawala. Trainer: C.D. Monnappa.

Jackpot: ₹246 (106 tkts.); Mini Jackpot: 332 (31 tkts.); Treble (i): 113 (six tkts.); (ii): 155 (13 tkts.).

Anisimova exacts revenge on Swiatek; Sinner sails through

Osaka beats Muchova to extend her deepest run at a Grand Slam since the birth of her daughter; Auger-Aliassime overcomes de Minaur in a battle lasting over four hours to reach the last four

US OPEN

Redemption: Anisimova bounced back from her double-bagel defeat at the hands of Swiatek in the Wimbledon final and will meet Osaka for place in the summit clash. GETTY IMAGES

Agence France-Presse
NEW YORK

Amanda Anisimova avenged her Wimbledon thrashing by Iga Swiatek to set up a last-four clash with Naomi Osaka while reigning men's champion Jannik Sinner marched into the US Open semifinals on Wednesday.

Anisimova rebounded from her disastrous double-bagel defeat at the hands of Swiatek at Wimbledon two months ago, beating the second-ranked Pole 6-4, 6-3 in New York.

Six-time major winner Swiatek entered the US Open as the bookmakers' favourite, after she followed up her maiden Wimbledon title with victory at the Cincinnati Open WTA 1000 event.

Swiatek broke in the first game of the match but Anisimova hit back immediately and snatched the opening set when her rival ballooned a forehand long.

Anisimova again had to rally after falling behind early in the second set. She broke back for 2-2 and then moved a game from victory as Swiatek coughed up a costly double fault.

Swiatek saved two match points but a net cord in Anisimova's favour sealed the win and a sense of redemption for the 24-year-old.

Osaka beat Czech 11th seed Karolina Muchova 6-4, 7-6(3) to extend her deepest run at a Grand Slam since returning to tennis after the birth of her daughter in 2023.

The Japanese star hit 30 winners in a smooth performance reminiscent of the player who lifted the trophy here in 2018 and 2020. However, she has lost both previous matches with Anisimova – at the Australian Open and Roland Garros in 2022.

World No. 1 Sinner swept aside 10th seed Musetti 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 in the first all-Italian men's quarterfinal in Grand Slam history.

"It was a great performance, very solid. I started the match very well," said Sinner, who faces Canadian 25th seed Felix Auger-Aliassime in the semifinals on Friday.

Auger-Aliassime has won two of three previous meetings but Sinner thrashed him for the loss of just two games in Cincinnati last month.

The 24-year-old Sinner also tied Nicola Pietrangeli for the most Grand Slams win by an Italian man with his 86th victory.

Auger-Aliassime overcame Alex de Minaur in a four-set battle lasting over four hours to reach his second US Open semifinal.

The 25-year-old Auger-Aliassime is back in the last four of a Grand Slam for the first time since the 2021 US Open after beating eighth seed de Minaur 4-6, 7-6(7), 7-5, 7-6(4).

Australia's de Minaur, 26, has now lost all six of his Grand Slam quarterfinals.

The results (Quarterfnals):
Men: 1-Sinner (Ita) bt 10-Musetti (Ita) 6-1, 6-4, 6-2;
25-Auger-Aliassime (Can) bt 8-de Minaur (Aus) 4-6, 7-6(7), 7-5, 7-6(4).

Women: 23-Osaka (Jpn) bt 11-Muchova (Cze) 6-4, 7-6(3);
8-Anisimova (USA) bt 2-Swiatek (Pol) 6-4, 6-3.

Doubles: Men: 14-Yuki & Venus (Nzl) bt 11-Mektic (Cro) & Ram (USA) 6-3, 6-7(8), 6-3.

Sinner reveals why he was worried when a fan tried to open his bag

Press Trust of India
NEW YORK

When a fan tried to grab Jannik Sinner's bag after a US Open match, the defending champion wasn't just worried about losing some of his tennis equipment.

"I checked straightaway if he took something, because I don't have only rackets there," Sinner said Wednesday night after returning to the semifinals at Flushing Meadows.

"I have my phone. I have my wallet."

It was following his previous victory, in the fourth round on Monday night, that a fan attempted to open Sinner's bag when the 24-year-old went over to the stands to give away a towel and pose for a photograph.

A member of the security staff quickly stopped the fan, and Sinner walked away from the crowd.

Significant victory: The semifinal spot marks a breakthrough for the 33-year-old Yuki. X@MEDI_SAI

Yuki advances to his maiden Slam semifinals along with Venus

Press Trust of India
NEW YORK

India's Yuki Bhambri progressed to his maiden Grand Slam semifinal by advancing to the last four of the US Open men's doubles event with his Kiwi partner Michael Venus.

The duo upset 11th seeds Nikola Mektic and Rajeev Ram 6-3, 6-7(8), 6-3 in a quarterfinal clash on Court 17 on Wednesday.

Yuki and Venus had knocked out fourth seeds Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz in the pre-quarterfinals.

For Yuki, a former junior world No. 1 and the 2009 Australian Open boys' champion, the semifinal entry has marked a career breakthrough after years of battling injuries and transitioning from singles to doubles.

The winners secured the first break of the match when Yuki found a winner on Mektik's serve for a 3-1 lead. Venus' serve came under pressure in the very next game but the New Zealander managed to hold, consolidating the break. The 33-year-old Yuki locked the first set with an easy volley on Ram's return.

The Indian, however, lost his serve in early in the second set, allowing Mektic and Ram to make a comeback.

Yuki and Venus got the break back to make it 4-4 but eventually lost the set in tie-break when the former served a double fault while facing set point.

Yuki saved a break point in game three of the decider. Mektic was comfortably up 40-15 in game eight but Yuki and Venus got the break for a decisive 5-3 lead when the Croat could not return an angled backhand from the Indian after serving a double fault at deuce.

Serving for the match, Venus was down 0-40 but saved all three break points and later two more before closing out the game when Ram's backhand service return fell on the net.

Yuki and Venus will face the sixth-seeded British pair of Joe Salisbury and Neal Skupski for a place in the final.

Bartwal, Sakshi and Sanamacha advance

WORLD BOXING

Sports Bureau

Pawan Bartwal, Sakshi Chaudhary and Sanamacha Chanu recorded impressive wins as India began its campaign on a positive note at the World boxing championships, being organised under the banner of World Boxing, in Liverpool on Thursday.

Bartwal (55kg) beat Brazilian Michael Douglas Da Silva Trindade 3-2 in an intensely-fought contest. Among women, two-time World youth champion Sakshi (54kg) outslugged Ukraine's Viktoriia Shkeul with the referee stopping the contest in the second round, while another World youth gold medallist Sanamacha (70kg) defeated Denmark's Dittie Frostholm 4-1.

In a fast exchange, Bartwal relied on his accurate shots to take a 3-2 lead in the first round. Trindade raised the tempo by showcasing his range. Bartwal executed his solid and well-directed blows as the two were locked 2-2 in the second round.

In the final minute, Bartwal connected a good volume of clean shots to impress four of the five judges.

Bartwal will meet Asian Games bantamweight gold medallist Uzbek Mirazizbek Mirzakhalilov next.

Sakshi used her long range and fine footwork to move in and out of Viktoria's reach. The Indian won the first round 5-0 because of her clear head shots. Three standing counts on the Ukrainian resulted in Sakshi's win as she set up a pre-quarterfinal clash with Turkey's Olympics silver medallist Hatice Akbas.

The taller Sanamacha closed the gap to land powerful shots and beat the experienced Dittie. Sanamacha will face World Cup-2 winner Kazakh Natalya Bogdanova.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION KOTA SOUTH (RAJ.)
Address : C.A.D. Circle, Dusshehra Ground, Kota, E-Mail : nnkotasouth@gmail.com
No. :- NNK-S/Electrical/2025/525-532 Date :- 03/09/2025
Notice Inviting Bid
Bid for Conducting of Drone Light Show during Kota Dusshera Mela on Hire Basis are invited from interested bidders up to 04.09.2025 to 15.09.2025. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.nic.in** of the state and **udh.rajasthan.gov.in/nnks** department website.
NIB No. : DLB2526A5420
UBN No. : DLB2526GLOB16571
Executive Engineer
Municipal Corporation, Kota-South
Raj.Samwad/C/25/9296

Kolkata Municipal Corporation
Sustainability, Hygiene and Resilience Project (KMC-SHARP)
CORRIGENDUM
The following corrigendum is hereby issued for Bid published on **05.08.2025** in **https://wbtenders.gov.in** as well as in the newspapers for **Bid Package KMC-SHARP/OCB/SD09R/2025-26**:
ITB 16.1 & EQC 1.7.1 reference to COVID-19 are not applicable and stand deleted.

Dr.N.T.R. UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, A.P., VIJAYAWADA-520008
TENDER NOTICE
No.09A/We/TS/DM1/25 Date: 03.09.2025
Sealed Tenders are invited for following work at Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada.

S.No.	Name of the work
1	Providing Central web streaming setup at the Command Control room at Dr. NTR UHS, Vijayawada Note: For further details visit www.apeprocurement.gov.in

Sd/- Dr. V. Radhika Reddy
REGISTRAR

NAVODAYA VIDYALAYA SAMITI
Ministry of Education
Dept. of School Education & Literacy
Government of India
Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti requires following project professionals on temprorarily engagement for a period of one year (However, co-terminus with project period) to implement Vigyan Jyoti Project sanctioned by Department of Science & Technology.
A. Senior Project Associate (Rs. 42,000/- + HRA) : 1 Post
B. Project Associate-I (Rs. 31,000/- + HRA) : 1 Post
C. Project Assistant (Rs. 20,000/- + HRA) : 1 Post
Interested candidates may send their application in prescribed format through email at vigyanjyotinvs@gmail.com by **22nd September 2025**.
For details of Essential and desirable qualifications, Application Format and other terms and conditions, visit NVS website **www.navodaya.gov.in.**
Project Coordinator

RAJASTHAN STATE HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY, JAIPUR
GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
No. F.7(446)/SHA/PPP/ADB/2019-20 Date:
SHORT TERM NIT No.29/2025-26
INVITATION OF BIDS FOR TOLL COLLECTION
Bids for collection of user fee on Collection of user fee on "Pelibanga-Lakhuwali section of SH-118, Sardarshahar-Loonkaransar section of SH-6 A, Churu-Bhaleri section of 69, Roopangarh-Naraina section of SH-100 in the State of Rajasthan." are invited from interested bidders upto 11:30 AM on 09.09.2025.
Other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, htpp://sppp.raj.nic.in**) of the state: and department website. The estimated value of Annual Remittance is **Rs 12,22,47,454/-**
UBN No: PWD2526SLOB10782
(A.K.Jain)
Email: ho.rsha@rajasthan.gov.in Member (C&PPP)
Tel: +91-141-2223547 RSHA, Jaipur
RajKaj Ref No.:17368369 DIPR/C/12685/2025

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Telephone: 04637 – 28-1803 / 1672 / 4061,
Fax: 04637 – 281681.
ई-निविदा सूचना / E-TENDER NOTICE दिनांक/Dated : 03-09-2025
भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु **ई-निविदा** द्वारा मद-दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।
On Behalf of the President of India, item-rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for the following work:

क्र. सं. / Sl. No.	कार्य का नाम / Name of the Work	प्राक्कलित लागत / Estimated Cost ₹(लाखों में) (in Lakhs)	कार्य पूरा होने की अवधि / Period of completion	ईएमडी / EMD(₹)
1	एनआईटी सं:आईपीआरसी/ सीएमजी/ टीडी/ ई-107/ एमडब्ल्यू/ सीएमपी-01/2025-26	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-107/MW/CMP-01/2025-26		
	पलायमकोट्टई, तिरुनेलवेली में अंतरिक्ष यान नियंत्रण केंद्र (एस.सी.सी.) का निर्माण (सिविल, पी. एच. और विद्युत कार्य)। Construction of Spacecraft Control Centre (SCC) at Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli (Civil, PH & Electrical works)	712.40	09 (नौ महीने / Nine months)	14,24,800

ऑनलाइन निवेदन करने की तिथि: Dates for Online Request : From 05-09-2025 [10:00 hours/बजे] से To: 19-09-2025 [23:30 hours/बजे] तक।
नियत समय व प्रस्तुतीकरण की तिथि: Due Date & Time of Submission : 26-09-2025 [14:00 hours/बजे] तक।
अधिक जानकारी के लिए देखें : For further details visit: www.isro.gov.in/tenders (या/or) www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.
नोट : उपर्युक्त कार्य (कार्यों) के लिए भविष्य में सभी पत्राचार (शुद्धिपत्र) केवल उपर्युक्त वेबसाइट पर ही प्रकाशित किए जाएंगे।
Note : All future correspondence (Corrigenda) for the above work(s) shall be published only on the websites mentioned above.
समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी, आईपीआरसी। GROUP HEAD, CMG, IPRC.

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